



*"His, no, despite the sightless eyes—
The thrill of throngs, the voices of the nations,
And every tremor of the wide world's heart."*

National Institute for the Blind

ANNUAL REPORT

1926-27

*Annual Report of the
Executive Council of
the National Institute
for the Blind* (Registered under the Blind
Persons Act, 1920)
*For the Year ended
March Thirty - First,
Nineteen Hundred and
Twenty-Seven :: ::*



*In order to minimise the cost of producing this Report,
records of contributions have been omitted. These,
however, may be seen at the Institute's Headquarters,
or at its Branches.*

126 - 27



Headquarters :

224-6-8 GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1



THE MOON SOCIETY.....Works, 104 Queen's Road, Brighton
HOME TEACHING SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND.....224 Great Portland Street, London, W.1
BLIND BABIES HOMES : "Sunshine House," Chorley Wood, Herts.
 "Sunshine House," Oxford Road, Birkdale, Southport, Lancs.
 "Sunshine House," Warwick New Road, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire
COLLEGE FOR GIRLS WITH LITTLE OR NO SIGHT.....Chorley Wood, Herts.
SCHOOL OF MASSAGE.....224 Great Portland Street, London, W.1
GUEST HOUSE FOR AGED BLIND LADIES.....Hoole Bank, Chester
CONVALESCENT AND HOLIDAY HOME.....Quarry Hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex
HOME FOR BLIND WOMEN.....104 Queen's Road, Brighton
HOME FOR BLIND WOMEN.....9 Gordon Road, Clifton, Bristol
HOSTELS FOR BLIND WOMEN.....40 Langham Street, London, W.1, and
 8 Oval Road, Gloucester Gate, London, N.W.1
HOME INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT.....47 Woodlands Road, Redhill, Surrey

Areas and Offices :

NEWCASTLE. Northumberland, S. Durham, N. Cumberland. *Office* : Commercial Union Buildings,
47 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

YORKSHIRE. *Office :* 8 and 9 Pearl Buildings, East Parade, Leeds.

LIVERPOOL. Lancashire (part), Cheshire (part), Anglesey, Carnarvonshire, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Merionethshire, Montgomeryshire, Isle of Man. *Office* : May Buildings, 51 North John Street, Liverpool.

MANCHESTER. Cumberland (South), Westmorland, Lancashire (part), Cheshire (part), Derbyshire, North Staffordshire. *Office* : 90 Deansgate, Manchester.

EASTERN COUNTIES. Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire. *Office*: 12 Park Road, Peterborough.

SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES. Somersetshire, Dorsetshire, Devonshire, Cornwall. *Office* : 43 Southernhay West, Exeter.

WESTERN COUNTIES. Gloucestershire (including Bristol), Wiltshire, Herefordshire; also City of Bath. *Office*: 2 St. Paul's Road, Clifton, Bristol.

GREATER LONDON FUND FOR THE BLIND. *Office :* 224 Great Portland Street,
London, W.1.

HOME COUNTIES. Kent, Sussex, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire. *Office*: 224 Great Portland Street, London, W.1.

It should be noted that the South Yorkshire, South Wales, South Eastern and South Midland Offices have been closed as Branch Offices of the National Institute only since April 1, 1927. The South Yorkshire Area is now amalgamated with the North Yorkshire Area to form the Yorkshire Area with one office at Leeds, while the other three Offices have been closed as National Institute Offices in accordance with completed agreements under the Unification of Collections Scheme.

National Institute for the Blind



Patrons:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Vice-Presidents:

HIS GRACE THE LORD ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, K.G., P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF NEWCASTLE
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND
THE MOST HONOURABLE THE MARQUESS OF SALISBURY, K.G., G.C.V.O., C.B.
THE MOST HONOURABLE THE MARQUESS OF CREWE, K.G., P.C.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF CHESTERFIELD, K.G., P.C., G.C.V.O.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL FITZWILLIAM, K.C.V.O., C.B.E., D.S.O.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF LONSDALE, G.C.V.O.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF ANCASTER
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL OF IVEAGH, K.P., G.C.V.O.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE EARL BUXTON, P.C., G.C.M.G.
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE VISCOUNT ROTHERMERE, P.C.
THE RIGHT REVEREND THE LORD BISHOP OF CHESTER
LADY (ARTHUR) PEARSON, D.B.E.
SIR T. VANSITTART BOWATER, BART., M.P.
SIR EDWARD BROTHERTON, BART., M.P.
SIR REGINALD MACLEOD OF MACLEOD, K.C.B.
SIR WILLIAM SOULSBY, K.C.V.O., C.B., C.I.E.
COUNCILLOR J. MATHEWSON WATSON, J.P.
MRS. JOHN MACY (née SULLIVAN, Wrentham, Mass.)
(Miss Helen Keller's Teacher)
F. R. ARMITAGE, ESQ.
J. H. BATTY, ESQ.
RALPH DAVIS, ESQ.
C. F. DENNY, ESQ.
P. M. EVANS, ESQ., M.A., LL.D.
H. M. TAYLOR, ESQ., M.A., F.R.S.
JOHN TENNANT, ESQ.

Executive Council :

Chairman : Captain Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE, V.C., K.C.V.O., C.B.E.

Vice-Chairman : Sir MICHAEL O'DWYER, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I.

Hon. Treasurers : G. F. MOWATT, J.P.

A. J. W. KITCHIN, C.I.E.

Miss ALICE S. ARMITAGE

Mrs. STANLEY BALDWIN

Miss JUDITH MERIVALE

Lt.-Col. R. W. ANDRY

W. BATEMAN, J.P.

J. H. BATTY, F.R.G.S.

ORMOND A. BLYTH

Rev. Canon C. E. BOLAM, F.R.H.S.

Alderman Dr. H. BRACKENBURY

Sir COLES CHILD, Bart., J.P., D.L.

Lt.-Col. E. C. CLAY, C.B.E.

J. J. CROSFIELD, J.P.

Sir R. ELLIS CUNLIFFE, M.A.

W. H. EASTMAN

P. M. EVANS, M.A., LL.D., J.P.

J. FERGUSON, B.A., M.D., D.P.H.

JAMES GRAHAM

GODFREY H. HAMILTON

T. D. HOBBY

T. HOLT, O.B.E.

W. PERCY MERRICK

J. MULHALL, B.L., J.P.

Sir RICHARD PAGET, Bart.

HARVEY F. PLANT, M.C.

WALTER S. TALBOT, C.I.E.

W. H. TATE, J.P.

T. H. TYLOR, B.C.L., M.A.

HENRY J. WAGG, O.B.E.

Councillor J. MATHEWSON WATSON, J.P.

A. E. WOOD

Committees :

Standing Committee—Lt.-Col. E. C. CLAY, A. J. W. KITCHIN, W. PERCY MERRICK, G. F. MOWATT (Chairman), J. MULHALL, Sir MICHAEL O'DWYER, WALTER S. TALBOT, Capt. Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE, H. J. WAGG.

After-Care Committee—Lt.-Col. E. C. CLAY, Captain V. M. DEANE, T. D. HOBBY, A. J. W. KITCHIN (Chairman), G. F. MOWATT, J. MULHALL, WALTER S. TALBOT, Capt. Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE.

Education Committee—Dr. C. CHREE, F.R.S., J. FERGUSON, W. P. MERRICK, G. F. MOWATT, Sir RICHARD PAGET, Bart., JOHN TENNANT, Capt. Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE (Chairman), T. H. TYLOR.

Finance Committee—J. FERGUSON, GODFREY H. HAMILTON, T. HOLT, A. J. W. KITCHIN, G. F. MOWATT, J. MULHALL, Sir MICHAEL O'DWYER (Chairman), WALTER S. TALBOT, Capt. Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE.

Home Industries Committee—Miss JUDITH MERIVALE, T. D. HOBBY, A. J. W. KITCHIN, G. F. MOWATT (Chairman), J. MULHALL, H. F. PLANT, Capt. Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE, H. J. WAGG.

Homes Committee—Mrs. KITCHIN, Miss MARGARET MOWATT, Mrs. L. SANDFORD, Mrs. TYDEMAN, A. J. W. KITCHIN, G. F. MOWATT (Chairman), J. MULHALL, Capt. Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE, H. J. WAGG.

Publications Committee—Miss L. BELL, Miss O. I. PRINCE, Rev. Canon C. E. BOLAM, T. HOLT, A. J. W. KITCHIN, W. P. MERRICK, J. MULHALL, Sir MICHAEL O'DWYER (Chairman), WALTER S. TALBOT, Capt. Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE, T. H. TYLOR.

Technical and Research Committee—Miss MAUD STACY, H. D. BLACK, A. F. R. COTTON, Dr. A. H. DAVIS, RODERICK DENMAN, Rev. E. H. GRIFFITHS, R.N., T. D. HOBBY, W. P. MERRICK, Sir RICHARD PAGET, Bart. (Vice-Chairman), Capt.

Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE, Dr. W. S. TUCKER (Representing the Physical Society of London), T. H. TYLOR, H. J. WAGG (Chairman).

Literature (Consultative)—Miss M. M. R. GARAWAY (Headmistress, L.C.C. School for the Blind, Wandsworth Common, S.W.); Miss P. MONK, M.A. (Headmistress, Chorley Wood College for Blind Girls); Miss O. PRINCE (National Library for the Blind); G. C. BROWN, M.A. (Headmaster, Worcester College for the Blind); J. R. M. BUTLER; C. F. CLAY, M.A.; Sir ERNEST HODDER-WILLIAMS, C.V.O.; ROGER INGPEN; Professor GILBERT MURRAY, M.A., LL.D.; Sir JOHN MURRAY; Sir ARTHUR THOMAS QUILLER-COUCH, M.A., Litt.D., F.R.S.L.; J. C. SQUIRE; Sir J. J. THOMPSON, LL.D.

Music (Consultative)—ALFRED W. ABDEY, Mus. Doc., F.R.C.O.; ERNEST FOWLES, F.R.A.M.; ALFRED HOLLINS, Mus. Doc., F.R.C.O.; STEWART MACPHERSON, F.R.A.M.; C. W. PEARCE, M.A., Mus. Doc. (Cantab.), F.R.C.O.; Sir LANDON RONALD, F.R.A.M., F.R.C.M., F.G.S.M.; JOHN WARRINER, Mus. Doc., F.T.C.L.; JOHN E. WEST, F.R.A.M., F.R.C.O.; WILLIAM WOLSTENHOLME, Mus. Bac. (Oxon.).

Appointments Board—G. BROWN, M.A. (Worcester College for the Blind); G. M. CAMPBELL (Royal Normal College for the Blind); H. J. CLARKE (Director, Selfridge & Co.); Sir R. WALEY COHEN, K.B.E. (Director of Shell-Mex); Sir J. DEVONSHIRE, K.B.E. (Director, Underground Electric Railways); Dr. A. EICHHOLZ (Board of Education); Miss M. GARAWAY, M.A. (L.C.C. School for the Blind); A. R. KNIGHT (National Institute of Industrial Psychology); F. R. LOVETT (Ministry of Health); G. F. MOWATT; W. R. MORRIS; Sir PHILIP NASH, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Chairman, Metropolitan Vickers); R. PEARS (Chairman, Pears' Soap Works); The Rt. Hon. G. H. ROBERTS, P.C., J.P.; P. ROOKSBY (Staff Manager, Harrod's); Sir SYDNEY SKINNER, J.P. (Chairman, Barker's); Capt. Sir BEACHCROFT TOWSE; H. J. WAGG; A. E. WOOD; THE DEPUTY MASTER AND CONTROLLER OF THE ROYAL MINT.

Secretary-General :

Sir ALEXANDER HENDERSON DIACK, K.C.I.E., C.V.O., C.B.E.

Solicitors :

BIRD & BIRD, 5 Gray's Inn Square, W.C.1

Hon. Architect :

C. E. ELCOCK, F.R.I.B.A. (ELCOCK & SUTCLIFFE), Avenue House, 21 Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2

Auditors :

JACKSON, PIXLEY & Co., 58 Coleman Street, E.C.2

Bankers :

THE WESTMINSTER BANK, LTD., Harley Street Branch, 154 Harley Street, W.1

BRIEF PARTICULARS AND ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

NOTE.—Blind Members are distinguished by an asterisk (*).

Members of Standing Committee are distinguished by a dagger (†).

- Miss Alice S. Armitage.** Life Member. Daughter of the Founder of the National Institute. *c/o Ladies' National Clubs, 11 Cromwell Road, S.W.7.*
- Mrs. Stanley Baldwin.** 10 Downing Street, S.W.1.
- Miss J. Merivale** (*representing the Midland Counties Association for the Blind*). Chairman, Midland Counties Association of Societies for the Blind; Vice-Chairman, Statutory Committee for the Blind, Oxford City Council; Hon. Treasurer, Oxford Society for the Blind. 4 Park Town, Oxford.
- Lt.-Col. R. W. Awdry** (*representing the Western Counties Association for the Blind*). Chairman, Wiltshire County Association for the Blind; Member of the Western Counties Association for the Blind; Member of Committee of Gardner's Trust for the Blind; Member of Wiltshire County Council. *Little Cbeverell, Devizes.*
- Wm. Bateman, J.P., F.S.A.A.** (*representing the North-Western Counties Association for the Blind*). Chairman of the Stockport Institute for the Blind, the Deaf and the Dumb; Chairman of the North-Western Counties Association for the Blind; Hon. Treasurer and Member of the Committee of the Stockport Certified Industrial Schools; Vice-President and Member of the Board of the Stockport Infirmary; J.P. for the County Borough of Stockport; J.P. for the County of Chester. *The Homestead, Buxton Road, Stockport.*
- J. H. Batty, F.R.G.S.** Director of British Humane Association; Fellow of the Royal Institution. *The Manor House, Chorley Wood, Herts.*
- Ormond A. Blyth.** Chairman of Association for General Welfare of the Blind. 14 Northwick House, St. John's Wood Road, N.W.8.
- Rev. Canon C. E. Bolam, F.R.Hist.S.** (*representing the Eastern Counties Association for the Blind*). Vice-Chairman, Eastern Counties Association for the Blind; Secretary, Lincoln Blind Society; Secretary, Lindsey Society for the Blind. *S. Willingham Rectory, nr. Lincoln.*
- H. B. Brackenbury, M.R.C.S.** (*representing the Association of Education Committees*). Vice-President, Association of Education Committees; Vice-President, Central Association for Mental Welfare; Chairman of Representative Body of the British Medical Association; Alderman, Hornsey Town Council; Member of General Medical Council of the Society of Medical Officers of Health; Member of the County of Middlesex Education Committee. 30 West Heath Drive, N.W.11.
- Sir Coles Child, Bart., J.P., D.L.** (*representing the County Councils Association*). Alderman, Kent County Council; Chairman, Kent Asylums Committee; West Kent Quarter Sessions. 18 Queen's Gate, S.W.7.
- †Lt.-Col. E. C. Clay, C.B.E.** (*representing Gardner's Trust for the Blind*). Secretary, Gardner's Trust for the Blind; Member of Executive Council of Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind; Member of Committee of National Library for the Blind. *Gardner's Trust for the Blind, 53 Victoria Street, S.W.1.*
- J. J. Crosfield, J.P.** (*representing the National Library for the Blind*). Member of the Committee of the National Library for the Blind; Member of the Finance Committee of the Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind. 13 Melbury Road, W.14.
- Sir R. Ellis Cunliffe, M.A., Oxon.** (*representing the Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind*). Solicitor to the Board of Trade, 1900-1920; Chairman, West London Workshops for the Blind, 1894-1922; Chairman, London Society for Teaching and Training the Blind, 1924; Member of the Executive Committee of the Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association; Chairman, Kensington, Fulham and Chelsea General Hospital; Member of the Council of Bradfield College, 1914-34 *The Grove, The Boltons, S.W.10.*
- W. H. Eastman** (*representing the Association of Poor Law Unions*). Member of the Hull City Council and Council Committee for the Care of the Blind; Guardian of the Poor. Sculcoates Union, Hull; Member of Council of the Poor Law Union's Association; Member of the Advisory Committee on Welfare of the Blind (Ministry of Health); Member of Management Committee of the Hull and East Riding Blind (Homes, Workshop and Institute). 17 Barmston Street, Hull.
- P. M. Evans, M.A., Oxon., LL.D. Hon.) Leeds, F.S.A., J.P.** (*representing the Clothworkers Company*). Clerk to the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers; Vice-Chairman, Advisory Committee of the Welfare of the Blind (Ministry of Health); Member of Central Council for the London Blind (L.C.C.); Chairman, Union of Counties Association for the Blind; Chairman, Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind; Chairman of the Trustees of the National Blind Relief Society; Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee of the National Library for the Blind; Member of the Blind-Deaf Care Committee of the Royal Association in aid of the Deaf and Dumb; Member of the Governing Body of a number of institutions including the City Parochial Foundation and the City and Guilds of London Institute; Joint Hon. Treasurer of the Royal Society of Arts; Governor and Member of the Executive Committee of the Foundling Hospital. *Clothworkers Hall, 41 Mincing Lane, E.C.*
- J. Ferguson, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.** (*representing the Northern Counties Association for the Blind*). Chief Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Lancashire County Council; Chairman of the Northern Counties Association for the Blind; Member of the Committee of the National Library for the Blind. *County Offices, Preston.*

BRIEF PARTICULARS AND ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL—Continued

- James Graham.** Director of Education for the City of Leeds; Member of the National Advisory Committee on the Welfare of the Blind; Member of Executive Committee of Northern Counties Association for the Blind; Member of Executive Committee of Association of Education Committees; Member of the Authorities Panels on the Standing Joint Committee on Teachers' Salaries. *Education Office, Leeds.*
- Godfrey H. Hamilton.** Secretary, National Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System; Member of Council and Vice-President Incorporated Association of Hospital Officers. 22 *St. Mary Abbots Terrace, W.14.*
- T. D. Hobby** (*representing the South Wales and Monmouthshire Counties Association for the Blind*). Hon. Secretary, Merthyr Tydvil Institution for the Blind; Member of the Executive Council of the South Wales and Monmouthshire Counties Association for the Blind; Chairman of the Dowlais Branch of the National Union of Railwaymen; Member of the Merthyr Council Blind Persons Statutory Committee. 53 *Gladys Street, Pant, Dowlais, Glamorganshire.*
- Thomas Holt, O.B.E.** (*representing the Association of Municipal Corporations*). Town Clerk, Winchester; Member of St. John's and the Allied Charities. *The Guildhall, Winchester.*
- †A. J. W. Kitchin, C.I.E., I.C.S.** Chairman, North Lambeth Committee, Charity Organisation Society; Executive Committee, Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association; Standing Committee, Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; Governor, Worcester College. 24 *Hereford Square, S.W.7.*
- *†W. Percy Merrick.** Hon. Treasurer of "Esperanto Ligilo"; Hon. Treasurer of Universal Association of Blind Esperantists; Examiner in Braille for the National Institute. *Penso, Shepperton, Middlesex.*
- *†G. F. Mowatt, J.P.** Fellow and Hon. Treasurer of the College and Association of Teachers of the Blind; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Worcester College; Governor, Royal Normal College for the Blind; Committee, Barclay Workshop for Blind Women; Chairman, Joint Committee, Barclay Institutions for Blind Women; Member of Advisory Committee on Welfare of the Blind (Ministry of Health); Member of Advisory Committee on the Welfare of the Blind, London County Council; Member of Committee of National Library for the Blind; Member of Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association. *Keymer, Hassocks, Sussex.*
- *†John Mulhall, B.L., M.R.I.A., J.P.** Private Secretary to Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Marquis of Londonderry, K.G., 1886-89, Marquis of Zetland, K.T., 1889-92; Hon. Secretary, Irish Distress Fund, 1891-90; Vice-Chairman, Prisons Board, Ireland, 1892-1912; Member of British Red Cross Society, Co. Dublin Branch, 1917-22; Deputy Chairman, Irish Advisory Committee for the Blind, 1917-22; Member of Executive Committee of the Shropshire Association for the Blind; Member of the Midland Counties Association for the Blind; Member of Executive Committee of Reading Association for the Welfare of the Blind. *The Hill House, Caversham, Reading.*
- †Sir Michael O'Dwyer, G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., I.C.S.** Lt.-Governor, Punjab, 1913-1919; Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. 26 *Brechin Place, S.W.7.*
- Sir Richard Paget, Bart.** Fellow of the Physical Society of London; Fellow of the Institute of Physics Council; Member of the Royal Institution; Associate and Member of Council, Town Planning Institute; Barrister; Specialist on the Development of Inventions. 1 *Devonshire Terrace, W.2.*
- Harvey F. Plant, M.C.** (*representing the Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind*). Member of Executive Committee, National Library for the Blind; Member of Executive Committee, Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind. 9 *Craven Hill, W.2.*
- †Walter S. Talbot, C.I.E., I.C.S.** Member of Board of Governors of Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children and Women; Member of Board of Delegates of the Hospital Saturday Fund. *Glenhurst, Esher, Surrey.*
- W. H. Tate, J.P., F.C.T.B.** (*representing the Northern Counties Association for the Blind*). Royal Institution for the Blind, Bradford; Northern Counties Association for the Blind, Manchester; Advisory Committee on the Welfare of the Blind, London. 24 *Hanover Square, Bradford.*
- *†Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C., K.C.V.O., C.B.E.** Gordon Highlanders, retired; Sergeant-at-Arms in Ordinary to His Majesty; Hon. Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms; Knight of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem; Member of Council of Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind; Member of Council of the Association for the General Welfare of the Blind; Vice-President, Hepburn Starey Blind Aid Society; Member of the College and Association of Teachers of the Blind; Vice-President of British Legion and various branches all over the country; Freeman of Worshipful Company of Fishmongers and of Worshipful Company of Clothworkers. *Long Meadow, Goring, Oxon.*
- *†T. H. Tylor, B.C.L., M.A.** Tutor and Lecturer in Jurisprudence at Balliol College, Oxford. *Balliol College, Oxford.*
- †H. J. Wagg, O.B.E.** (Late) Lieutenant, R.N.V.R.; Councillor, Paddington Borough Council; Member, Union of Counties Association for the Blind; Member of Executive Committee, Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind; Member, Blind Persons Sub-Committee, Middlesex County Council; Member of Committee of the Central Council for London Blind, London County Council; Hon. Secretary and Trustee, Barclay Workshop for Blind Women; Member, Executive Committee, Barclay Home and School for Blind and Partially Blind Girls. 11 *Gloucester Square, W.2.*
- J. Mathewson Watson, J.P.** Member of Manchester City Council; Magistrate of the City; Chairman of the White Heather Fund; Chairman of Parks Treats, Manchester Parks Committee; Life Governor of the Royal Infirmary; Life Governor of the Jewish Hospital; Governor of St. Bede's College; Member of the Board for St. Joseph's School for Boys; President of the Manchester Sunday School Union; Member of the Board of the Manchester Guardian Society for the Protection of Trade; Member of the Board of Henshaw's Institution for the Blind; President, Manchester Harriers; Hon. Secretary, Anglo-American Society; Member of the Board for the Girls' High School. 90 *Deansgate, Manchester.*
- A. E. Wood.** Member of Leeds Institution for the Blind. *East Parade Chambers, Leeds.*

Report of the Executive Council
OF THE
National Institute for the Blind
For the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1927

TO render thanks is a difficult task. Written words, even superlatives, although worn threadbare in the endeavour, can never adequately express the gratitude we, and the blind people of England and Wales for whom we work, feel towards the thousands of men, women and children who have assisted the National Institute for the Blind during the past year. Yet we know, from the spirit of the letters accompanying the donations, that one and all will appreciate more than any word of thanks the following record of the Institute's work; for it contains details of a noble struggle against destiny which must always appeal to those in possession of the most priceless of the senses.

Before beginning this record, however, we should like to draw attention to a few facts relative to the particular value of certain types of service, to our present financial position, and to the attempt of the Institute to unify collections made on behalf of the blind.

Perhaps the most valuable form of assistance to the Institute is the annual subscription. The total amount of annual subscriptions received should really be the basis of our funds, the figure on which we can rely, on which we can calculate in respect to the maintenance and extension of activities. The greater the number of our regular subscribers, the farther can we see ahead, and, as everyone knows, farsightedness is the key to success in all business organisations. Another invaluable form of assistance is the legacy. The legacies received last year (see page 58 for details) amounted to £14,720, a sum, for example, more than amply sufficient to meet the entire cost of the annual production of embossed publications, and their distribution throughout the British Empire. A legacy is all the more welcome in that it is more often than not unexpected; it is literally a God-send to the blind, and there is a peculiar fittingness in the thought that even death can bring light into a world of darkness.

Apart from money gifts, we can all render invaluable assistance to the blind by personal service, by that kindly wisdom which sees in a blind man not an abnormal object to be pitied but one of ourselves, handicapped but normal, someone to help over a stile, someone to mingle with

us in the world's throng. To all our supporters we extend a most cordial invitation to Headquarters or to any of our Branches and Homes, feeling sure that their interest will be immensely increased by actual contact with the blind world, and that they will henceforth be instruments of propaganda, men and women who will spread the news that the blind are continuously progressing and that the achievements of to-day may be but shadows beside the achievements of to-morrow. This report will prove, we believe, that we have every reason to be optimistic; for the blind themselves are born optimists, and, whatever the fluctuations of its income, the Institute can never fulfil its purpose if it be not imbued with the spirit of progress.

That income, we regret to report, is this year less by £15,700 than that of last year. This is a very serious drop, and it has naturally been difficult in the circumstances to maintain essential services. As, however, the main cause of this diminution was without doubt the very severe industrial crisis through which the country passed during a considerable part of the period under review, we do not feel that it reflects at all on the public generosity. In fact, we consider that the attitude of the general public towards the blind is one of increasing practical interest and sympathy, especially as it is becoming daily more widely known that the Institute and local institutions and agencies working for the blind all over the country are actively engaged in unifying effort, and thus minimising overlapping in either administrative or collecting activities.

Unification of Collections

Readers of our last report will recollect that, in order to promote a better understanding between voluntary agencies conducting national and local services, we adopted a scheme, approved by the Ministry of Health's Advisory Committee on the Welfare of the Blind, which provided for the reconstruction of the Institute's Council on a more representative basis, and empowered us to open negotiations with local voluntary agencies with a view to framing collecting agreements.

We are happy now to report that this scheme

Annual Report—

has been successfully initiated. Seventeen additional members of the Council have been appointed, and their names, together with those of the interests they represent, are given in the detailed list of the present members of the Executive Council on pages 5 and 6.

The first meeting of the enlarged Council took place in July, 1926. Accordingly, the new members had a voice in the election of the Institute's office-bearers, namely, the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and the two Hon. Treasurers, and were invited by the old members to nominate new office-bearers should they so desire. The invitation, however, was declined, and the retiring office-bearers were re-elected, as the members of the Council were of the opinion that they could not be bettered and that the Chairman was "the right man in the right place." It will be seen, however, by reference to page 4, that most of the new members are now serving on the Institute's various Committees, so that practically all members of the enlarged Council are at present actively engaged in executive work.

The first duty of the new Council was to appoint a Committee to deal with the unification of collections. Broadly speaking, the Committee's aim was to arrange two standard forms of agreement between the Institute and any local agency by which money-raising in a certain area should be undertaken either by the Institute or by the local agency, in each case the money collected being allocated in agreed proportions to national and to local work.

Arrangements of such a nature, but not involving any important change of policy, had already been concluded by the old Council, either during the first months of the period under review or previously, with the following agencies :—

Collection made by the Institute.

Bath Home Teaching Society.
Bradford Royal Institution for the Blind.
Brighton Society for the Welfare of the Blind.
Darlington Society for the Blind.
East Sussex Association for the Blind.
Hertfordshire Association for the Blind.
Gloucester (City) Blind Association.
Gloucestershire County Association for the Blind.
Keighley Institution for the Blind.
Kent County Association for the Blind.
Leeds United Institute for the Blind.
Wiltshire County Association for the Blind.

Collection made by the Local Agency.

Midland Societies for the Blind :—
Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind.
Burton-on-Trent Blind Committee.
Coventry Society for the Blind.
Shropshire County Association for the Blind.
Staffordshire County Association for the Blind.
Stourbridge Institution for the Blind.

Walsall, Wednesbury and District Society for the Blind.

Warwickshire County Association for the Blind.

Worcestershire County Association for the Blind.

Portsmouth Voluntary Association for the Blind.

Worthing Society for Befriending the Blind.

Supplementing these arrangements, agreements on the basis mentioned have now been concluded with the following agencies :—

Collection made by the Institute.

Barnsley and District Association for the Blind.
Cornwall County Association for the Blind.
Dorset County Association for the Blind.
Doncaster and District Home Teaching Society for the Blind.
Herefordshire County Association for the Blind.
Liverpool Workshops for the Blind.
Newcastle and Gateshead Home Teaching Society.
Newcastle—Royal Victoria School for the Blind.
Newcastle—Workshops for the Adult Blind.
Norwich Institution for the Blind.
Somerset County Association for the Blind.

Collection made by the Local Agency.

Cardiff Institute for the Blind.
Newport and Monmouthshire Blind Aid Society.
Sunderland and Durham County Royal Institute for the Blind.

In consequence of the new agreements, four of our branch offices have been closed, and one area has been amalgamated with another (see page 2), while to control the working of the branches, we have appointed a Northern, an Eastern and a Southern Committee composed of members of the Executive Council resident in the respective areas with power to co-opt others.

In addition a Committee has been appointed to examine the organisation of the Greater London Fund and to formulate proposals that may bring it into line with the other agreements.

One further agreement remains to be mentioned. In March, 1917, the Institute agreed to present to the National Library for the Blind, for a period of not less than ten years, 30 copies of all works of fiction in Braille and Moon (subsequently increased to 32 copies) and a lesser number of works of reference, music, etc. As the ten years' period expired in March, 1927, and as the National Library Committee asked that its claims might be considered in connection with the unification of collections, we appointed a small Committee which has since discussed the matter with representatives of the Library. Although this question is, strictly speaking, in advance of the period under review, we take this opportunity of stating that a satisfactory agreement has been concluded. Briefly, this agreement stipulates that, with the assent of all parties concerned, the National Library shall be a party to all collecting agreements made or to be made between the Institute and local agencies, and thus receive a proportionate

Annual Report—

share, not exceeding an agreed amount, of the money specifically allocated in such agreements to national work.

Speaking of the unification scheme as a whole, we need only say at the moment that we are satisfied with the progress made. Very many points have to be discussed before each separate agreement can be sealed, and many negotiations are still in progress, but it is indisputable that the conclusion of each agreement marks a further advance in the effort all parties are making to serve the blind of this country to the best of their ability.

Allocations and Grants

Below we give a list of the individual allocations made under the percentage agreements during 1926-7, together with the fixed grants and special grants made during the same period in accordance with the Institute's policy for many past years, amounting in all to a total of £22,530.

	£	s.	d.
Berkshire—			
Berkshire County Blind Society	100	0	0
Cambridge—			
Cambridge Society for the Blind	50	0	0
Cheshire—			
Chester Society for the Blind	7	12	5
Cornwall—			
Cornwall County Association for the Blind	100	0	0
Western Counties Association for the Blind	200	0	0
Devon—			
Devon County Association for the Blind ..	400	0	0
North Devon Home Teaching Society for the Blind	100	0	0
South Devon and Cornwall Institution for the Blind—Plymouth	700	0	0
West of England Institution for the Blind—Exeter	500	0	0
Durham—			
Darlington Society for the Blind	155	12	4
Sunderland and Durham County Royal Institute for the Blind	1,150	19	9
Essex—			
Essex Voluntary Association for the Blind	50	0	0
Colchester Home Teaching Society	110	0	0
Glamorganshire—			
Cardiff Institute for the Blind	2,750	0	0
Gloucestershire—			
Bristol—Clifton Home for Blind Women ..	271	19	3
Cheltenham Workshops for the Blind	400	0	0
Gloucester Blind Association	139	12	6
Gloucestershire County Association for the Blind	200	0	0
Hampshire—			
Hampshire Association for the Care of the Blind	100	0	0
Portsmouth Brotherhood Social Club for the Blind	266	13	4
Southampton Association for the Blind ..	300	0	0
Herefordshire—			
Herefordshire County Association for the Blind	12	12	11
Hertfordshire—			
Hertfordshire Association for the Blind ..	94	4	11
Kent—			
Ashford Society for the Blind	40	6	0
Dover Society for the Blind	16	15	4
Kent County Association for the Blind ..	481	3	8

	£	s.	d.
Lancashire—			
Accrington Workshops for the Blind	1	0	9
Blackpool and Fylde Society for the Blind	75	0	0
Bury Society for the Blind	4	3	1
Liverpool—School for Indigent Blind, Hardman Street	500	0	0
Liverpool—Workshops and Home Teaching Society for the Outdoor Blind	3,750	0	0
Lincolnshire—			
Lindsey Blind Society	6	13	10
London—			
Association of Certificated Blind Masseurs	150	0	0
College and Association of Teachers of the Blind	10	10	0
East Ham Welfare Association	50	0	0
Guild of Blind Gardeners	100	0	0
National Union of the Professional and Industrial Blind	10	0	0
Monmouthshire—			
Newport and Monmouthshire Blind Aid Society	529	18	1
Norfolk—			
Norwich Institution for the Blind	400	0	0
Yarmouth and Gorleston Welfare Society for the Blind	36	9	2
Northumberland—			
Newcastle and Gateshead Home Teaching Society	250	0	0
Newcastle—Royal Victoria School for the Blind	350	0	0
Newcastle—Workshops for the Adult Blind	1,000	0	0
Pembrokeshire—			
Pembrokeshire Society for the Blind	5	5	0
Somerset—			
Bath Home Teaching Society	259	10	9
Bridgwater Home Teaching Society for the Blind	25	9	9
Somerset County Association for the Blind	300	0	0
Staffordshire—			
North Staffordshire Workshops for the Blind	4	8	3
Surrey—			
Croydon Voluntary Association for the Blind	100	0	0
Sussex—			
Brighton Society for the Welfare of the Blind	126	8	10
East Sussex Association for the Blind	291	13	1
Eastbourne Society for the Social Welfare of the Blind	10	5	2
Worthing Society for Befriending the Blind	100	0	0
Wiltshire—			
Wiltshire County Association for the Blind	545	17	6
Yorkshire—			
Barnsley and District Association for the Blind	400	0	0
Bradford—Royal Institution for the Blind	1,102	19	9
Doncaster and District Home Teaching Society for the Blind	278	0	0
Halifax Society for the Blind	30	7	5
Keighley Institution for the Blind	160	4	4
Leeds United Institute for the Blind	2,750	8	2
Middlesborough Workshops for the Blind	15	2	3
Sheffield—Royal Institution for the Blind	54	8	8
Todmorden Society for the Blind	28	5	9
Esperanto—			
Ligilo (Esperanto Magazine for the Blind)..	20	0	0
	<u>£22,530</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>

We now proceed to review the work of the Institute's various departments during the year.

Annual Report—

Embossed Books and Periodicals

(see also pages 35-39)

One of the most satisfactory developments of the Institute's work during recent years has been the increased production of books and periodicals in Braille and Moon types. Having always regarded this activity as one of the highest importance to the blind generally, we have constantly endeavoured, even in times of grave financial stress, to retain and extend the Institute's wide influence as the largest publishing house for the blind in the world. The period under review has not been an exception to the rule. A very considerable quantity of the best literature of all kinds has been added to our catalogues or is now passing through the Press, and the varied nature of the books published is illustrated by the account given on page 35 of the work of the Institute's Publications Committee.



The Front Cover of the First Issue of the "Braille Radio Times"; size—10½ ins. by 13½ ins.

The following table gives the number of books and periodicals published during the period under review :—

Braille Publications.	
Bound volumes	19,918
Book pamphlets, instruction cards and alphabets	12,911
Magazines	199,491
Newspapers	101,802
Braille Book Plates produced.	
Literature, including magazines and newspapers	22,266
Moon Publications.	
Bound volumes	4,295
Book pamphlets, magazines and newspapers, alphabets, etc.	58,699
Moon Book Plates produced.	
Literature, including magazines and newspapers	5,881

But the publication of embossed literature would not greatly benefit the blind were it not accompanied by practical methods of distribution. As most of our readers know, the majority of blind people are handicapped not only by loss of sight but by poverty as well. Consequently, only a very few would be able to purchase embossed books, even though offered for sale at cost price, which is approximately 8s. per volume. Accordingly, the Institute allows to all blind purchasers throughout the British Empire a reduction of two-thirds of the cost price of all books published in Braille and Moon types, charging cost price only to the blind in foreign countries. In addition, a great many books are distributed free to deserving cases, and, in accordance with our agreement of many years' standing with the National Library for the Blind (see page 8), a number of copies of all our publications are presented gratis to the Library for free circulation amongst blind readers.

Taking into consideration these various concessions (amounting in value last year to the sum of £9,450), the approximate amount we need per annum to keep our Braille and Moon production up to its present standard is £12,000. It is a large sum, but the result achieved by its expenditure is not to be reckoned in money values: embossed literature is an unmitigated blessing to the blind world, and its educational and generally progressive influence has definitely transformed the abnormal into the normal, substituting for barren ignorance an ever-productive knowledge.

No mean share of this transforming process has been borne by embossed

Annual Report—

periodicals. Just as the daily newspaper has widened everyone's outlook from the boundaries of a parish to the borders of Empires and beyond, so has the Braille Press strengthened the inner vision of the blind. No longer now is it confined by lack of knowledge; Braille has given it the illimitable scope of its unfailing wings.

So keenly do we feel this undoubted power of the Braille Press that we have no hesitation in saying that, as yet, this Press is merely in its infancy. Wireless, to which we refer later, has to a certain extent, perhaps, eclipsed the value of the newspaper in the dissemination of actual news; more particularly is this so in the blind world. But wireless cannot bring to those with eyesight the many subsidiary attractions of a newspaper, and it is just these other features, such as reviews, expert articles on topics of the day, on technical subjects, on music and the drama, leaders, and so on, that we consider should be made available for the blind.

Last year, it will be remembered, we re-issued the "Massage Journal," and began publication of an Announcements Supplement to our various periodicals and of a special American Supplement to the "Moon" Newspaper. This year we are pleased to report the successful initiation of another new periodical—the "Braille Radio Times."

It is no exaggeration to say that wireless has revolutionised the outlook of the blind world. It would be out of place here to dwell on this most interesting topic: it is sufficient to say that the need for a reliable programme in Braille of the items broadcast from the stations of the British Broadcasting Corporation has been obvious for some time. A difficulty, however, hindered its earlier production. The embossing presses at the Institute were working to full capacity, and no new publications could be undertaken with the existing plant. Accordingly, it was with very deep gratitude that we accepted the kind offer of the British Broadcasting Corporation (who from the first were much interested in the proposition) to broadcast an appeal for funds sufficient to enable us to purchase the necessary additional plant. Our Chairman, Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, made the appeal, and, backed up by an announcement kindly made by the Editor of the "Radio Times" in the



Embossing Machine for printing the "Braille Radio Times"—purchased from Donations received in response to a Wireless Appeal.

columns of that paper, it was immediately successful. We may add that the ready and generous response of "listeners-in" to this appeal is a remarkable proof of that keen interest of the public—to which we have already made reference—in anything that touches its imagination by promising to lighten the lot of the less fortunate.

The "Braille Radio Times" is now an accomplished fact, and 1,500 copies of this periodical are being sold weekly, the circulation increasing with every issue. The journal gives an authoritative résumé of programmes broadcast from the English and Welsh Stations, by permission and with the kind co-operation of the British Broadcasting Corporation and the "Radio Times." We had hoped to include the programmes of the Scotch and Irish Stations, but unfortunately we had to limit the size of the paper, and for the time being they are omitted. It is our object, however, to enhance as far as possible the value of the periodical, and we see no reason why, in the near future, the programmes of all stations should not be included. Later, it may be possible for us to consider the issue of a wireless technical journal, but all such development must naturally depend on our financial position.

Annual Report—

Most of our readers are probably familiar with the names of the other periodicals prepared, stereotyped and published by the Institute; but, for the benefit of those who are not, we append a list :—

Braille Mail—A weekly newspaper giving a concise summary of the news of the world, grouped under headings, and keeping the blind in touch with affairs in general.

Progress—A monthly, which contains articles of interest to the blind, and includes features of general interest, a question box, a monthly competition, short stories, etc. Its aim is to keep the blind in touch with each other and with affairs of the moment, and to provide them with a means of exchanging views. It also includes a chess supplement and a supplement devoted to home occupations.

The Literary Journal—Issued monthly. It contains original contributions and articles selected from high-class reviews, magazines, newspapers, etc., and keeps its readers in touch with all modern literary and artistic movements and criticism.

Braille Musical Magazine—Edited by Mr. H. E. Platt, assisted by Mr. W. Wolstenholme, Mus. Bac. (Oxon.), and Mr. H. C. Warrilow, F.R.C.O., this magazine is issued monthly. It contains matters of interest to musicians, reviews of latest Braille music publications, and several pieces of music.

The School Magazine—(incorporating *Comrades*)—Edited by Mr. Edward Evans, and issued monthly. It is designed to supply schools for the blind with interesting reading matter *for class use*, and to afford boys and girls instruction combined with amusement. There is also a supplement for younger children, consisting of simple stories, etc., in uncontracted Braille.

The Massage Journal—Issued monthly and devoted to the interests of blind masseurs and masseuses, including up-to-date articles on massage.

Channels of Blessing—Edited by Miss S. M. Troup, and issued every two months. This is a religious magazine, and its aim is to provide reading matter which will give spiritual help and comfort to those who are deprived of sight and to the deaf-blind. A supplement provides aids to Sunday School teachers.

The following brief extracts from many letters received during the past year bear witness to the value of the Institute's periodicals :—

"I am already convinced (having read every Braille journal I can find from France, U.S.A., Canada and this country) that 'Progress' is unequalled."

"Every item you publish in 'Progress' is most valuable to the blind."

"I should like to congratulate you on your splendid work in connection with the 'School Magazine.' It is full of interesting topics, and its good standard is always maintained."

"It is with the greatest possible pleasure that I received the 'Braille Radio Times,' and I only hope that it may receive the support it merits."

"This new publication—the 'Braille Radio Times'—is an editorial triumph, and it is little short of remarkable that the principal items of the programmes to be broadcast throughout England and Wales can be compressed into twenty-seven pages of Braille."

"The 'Braille Radio Times' is most beautifully planned and executed and already has afforded me great pleasure."

All the periodicals named are printed in Braille type. In addition, the Institute, through its Moon Branch at Brighton, publishes two periodicals in Moon type, an easy adaptation of ordinary Roman type for the use of those who lose their sight in old age. These are :—

The Moon Magazine—Issued monthly, containing a short story and general items of interest, short articles, etc.

The Moon Newspaper—Issued weekly, giving a résumé of the world's news grouped under the names of countries, and containing a supplement of American news. This newspaper has the reputation of being the smallest, in number of words, of all the world's newspapers and has been described as a masterpiece of compression.

The Institute also issues a monthly periodical, "The Beacon," in ordinary type, containing up-to-date articles and items of interest to all concerned in the welfare of the blind.

To ally Braille readers with Moon readers instructional books have been prepared in both types, so that a Moon reader may now progress towards the more difficult Braille system, and a Braille reader avail himself of the many books published in Moon but not in Braille. The various Braille instructional books and primers are also now being revised, every endeavour being made to secure for the work of revision a consensus of expert opinion as to the best instructional methods.

A new illustration of the elasticity of the Braille system is the completion, during the period under review, of a Braille Phonetic Code for use in the transliteration of works in modern languages. A special sub-committee was appointed to find Braille equivalents for the symbols of the International System, and a code has been evolved which is now being used in the preparation of a new French Grammar.

It is with much satisfaction that we report the decision to publish a new series of scientific textbooks. This was made possible only by the generous co-operation of the Embossed Scientific Books Fund, initiated many years ago by Mr. H. M. Taylor, M.A., F.R.S., and of which the present Hon. Sec. is Mr. A. R. Hinks, F.R.S., C.B.E., who takes keen interest in the work. It is truly a "sign of the times" in the blind world that the first book selected for publication in the new series is the latest technical book on wireless; through the courtesy of the publishers and the author, we hope to make the publication of the Braille edition follow very quickly that of the ink-print edition.

Progress has been made with the new portable Braille edition of the Authorised Version of the Holy Scriptures, and the work is now nearing

Annual Report—

completion. Steady progress is also being made in the replacement of worn plates in the Moon edition of the Bible.

A work of considerable importance recently undertaken has been the revision of our catalogue of Braille publications. Although we have nearly four miles of shelves at the Institute, the amount of new literature has been so considerable during the last few years, that it was essential to construct additional shelving accommodation for new publications or to delete certain more or less obsolete items from our catalogue. The latter course was adopted; all items in Old Style Braille, all out-of-date editions of reference books, all works of an ephemeral nature and for which apparently the demand had ceased, have been deleted. In a sense, this action has been very beneficial to a large number of blind people. It was decided to give away the stock free of all charge, and many Braille readers, unable to afford to buy books, have taken advantage of this offer. Naturally, this free distribution has considerably depleted the value of our stock, which is always reckoned as an asset, but we feel amply repaid by the hundreds of letters of thanks received.

In order to produce new Moon publications as cheaply as possible, we have continued the policy of issuing limited editions. A third Series has been published, and it is hoped to complete a fourth Series during the present year. There is a growing demand for new Moon literature, and we appeal to libraries for the blind, which cater for the needs of the blind throughout the world, to order as many copies of each work as possible, and thus help us to maintain a plentiful supply of new works at the minimum cost.

A new Moon edition of the Collects, Epistles and Gospels and of the Prayer Book Psalms (Church of England) is being published weekly in loose-leaf sections. At the end of the year the

reader will be in possession of a complete set for subsequent use in special binders provided.

Braille Manuscript Books and Students' Library

The origin of the Manuscript Department and the Students' Library is described on page 33.

Nearly 800 new volumes have been prepared by volunteer Braille writers during the period under review, and the total number of books now in the Students' Library amounts to nearly 5,000, representing in value approximately £11,000.

To the voluntary workers, blind students owe a very deep debt of gratitude. From the list given below of some of the works completed this year, it will readily be understood that this transliteration work is no

easy matter. Not only is the standard of preliminary examination high, but the technical nature of many books undertaken presents many difficulties. Yet some workers have completed over 20 volumes during the year, while a new recruit, whose temporary blindness induced him to study Braille, has transliterated ten volumes of a technical nature in four months. No praise is sufficiently high for this devoted

work; those engaged in it are rendering splendid service to the cause of the progressive blind by promoting education and employment. For not only is the Students' Library beneficial to students: it is of great use to blind people who have qualified for and entered the professions, especially to lawyers, law being subject to constant revision.

A general idea of the Library's scope can be gathered from the following list of a few of the works added to the Library during the year:—

Histoire politique de l'Europe (Lavis), Histoire de la Civilisation en Europe (Guizot), Expansion of Russia (Skrine), Geology for Beginners (Watts), Introduction to Anthropology (Jones), Progress and Religion (Glover), Outlines of Anthropolosophy (Steiner), Anglo-Saxon



A Blind "Listener-in" using the "Braille Radio Times."

Annual Report—

Reader (Wyatt), Socialism and Character (Scudder), Plays of Vanbrugh and Wycherley, Oxford Book of French Verse, Les Fourberies de Scapin (Molière), New Law of Real Property (Topham), Modern Law of Real Property (Cheshire), Mercantile Law (Stevens), Gesta Francorum, England in the Age of Wycliffe (Trevelyan), England before the Norman Conquest (Oman), First Book in Old English (Cook), Practical Banking (Moxon), Parnell (St. J. Ervine), Morals (Seneca), Pro Murena (Cicero), Memorabilia (Xenophon).

The following extracts from many letters received testify to the Library's usefulness:—

"I am very pleased to be able to tell you that I have passed my finals. I thank you sincerely for your great assistance, for without your books it would have been impossible."

"I want to thank you (and everybody who helped to get my papers ready for me) very much indeed for the enormous amount of trouble and worry that you went to in order to get them into Braille for me. It is wonderful how you managed to get all that Maths. into Braille in the time you had."

"I can't tell you how glad and grateful I am to the N.I.B. for providing us students with the Students' Library. It must be filling a very important place in the blind world."

"Many thanks for the prompt and excellent manner in which you have attended to my literary wants. The books I have found in good condition, the subject matter of high standard and literature of a good quality. Since I have become a student of the MS. Department, it has been of invaluable assistance to me in my political work. As I am undergoing a course of study of Ancient Rome, I would esteem it a favour if you would forward to me any books on this subject. I would especially like the first four volumes of J. M. Robertson's 'Evolution of States,' as this work will be of great assistance. Permit me once more to thank you for your kind attention."

The following extract is illuminative:—

"Could you please let me have 'Beowulf' at the beginning of next October? It has been very difficult indeed this year without a copy. What portions of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles are in Braille? Next year I shall require a text including all the entries up to the year 1066 inclusive."

To transliterate "Beowulf" and the "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle" into Braille is surely no light labour, but such feats are daily accomplished in the Manuscript Department, and bear witness not only to the keenness of the volunteers who accomplish them but to the keenness of the blind students who request them.

It must be admitted that, lately, we have found some difficulty in replacing several of our older transliterators who for various reasons have had to relinquish their work. Many volunteers can be obtained for light work, such as fiction, but of the 134 candidates who took the official Braille examination last year, only 41 succeeded in obtaining certificates. It takes a long time to train Braillists, and many hours each day are devoted to this work by voluntary teachers. But we know

that both Braille teacher and Braille writer are amply repaid for all their work by the knowledge that they are very materially helping many blind students along a difficult road.

Other valuable services rendered to the blind by the Manuscript Department are the transliteration into Braille of examination papers for various examining bodies with blind candidates; the transliteration into or from Braille of correspondence; and the transliteration into Braille of lengthy articles for the Braille Reading Club.

In connection with the first-named service the following letter from Mr. John Johnson, Printer to Oxford University, is of interest:—

"We owe you many debts for the way in which your Institute is able to help us in the braillying of our Examination papers. Of course, we pay you for your work, but there remains always an intangible debt which it is difficult to express. I think it lies in the extraordinary efficiency, willingness and niceness with which your people do their work. There is no call, however impossible, to which they have not responded. In my dealings with them I always have the feeling that blindness has given great compensations."

Music

(see also pages 35 and 36.)

The output of Braille music during the year was as follows:—

Music plates embossed	1,959
Music volumes, collections of pieces, text-books, etc., published	1,152
Music pamphlets (Braille equivalent of sheet music) published	10,491

A complete sectional catalogue in Braille of the Institute's music publications is now available and is proving of great use to the blind musician. Each section is devoted to a special type of music, e.g., piano pieces, organ pieces, dances, etc., and can be obtained separately so that blind musicians now possess an easy guide to the 3,500 musical works published by the Institute.

Great care is taken in the selection of music for publication. A special sub-committee of the Publications Committee meets regularly for this purpose, and receives great assistance from the Music Consultative Committee (see page 4). The members of the latter are all distinguished men in the musical world; indeed, it is most gratifying to find that not only famous musicians and composers, but practically all the Colleges and Academies of Music and the various examining bodies fully recognise the value of the Institute's Music Department. The latter especially are getting daily into closer touch with the Department on questions affecting blind music students and examination candidates. Great assistance to the Department is also given by music publishers and owners of copyright;

Annual Report—

in fact, without their generosity in waiving copyright fees, it would be impossible for us to provide the blind with the music they need.

It is with pleasure that we report the initiation of a Music Students' Library on lines somewhat similar to our general Students' Library. There are certain standard musical works and text-books of which, for one reason or another, it would be inadvisable to publish stereotyped editions. There is no reason, however, why the blind musician should be deprived of what may be considered as necessities. Already several ladies, with sufficient knowledge and leisure, have volunteered to help in preparing manuscript copies of music, and soon, it is hoped, a number of important works will be available for loan to *bona fide* students. In this way we trust that a Music Students' Library, equal in value to the music student as the Students' Library is to the general student, will gradually be formed.

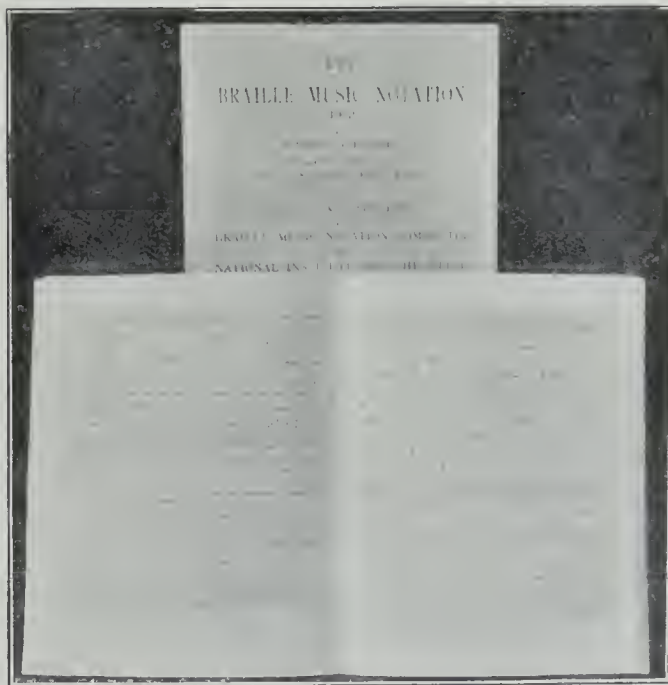
The recently published Braille edition of the Institute's new Students' Manual, "Elementary Lessons and Exercises on Revised Braille Music Notation," by Edward Watson, brings to a conclusion the task begun by the Braille Music Revision Committee (under the Chairmanship of Mr. H. C. Warrilow, F.R.C.O.), appointed by the Institute in 1912. This body of experts was charged with the entire revision of the Braille music system and with the preparation of the necessary text-books. A "Key" was issued in 1922, quickly followed by the "Elementary Lessons and Exercises." These two books completed and standardised the method of expressing and teaching Braille music. Both books are published in Braille and in letterpress, and both are sold at the special price of 2/6, a price very much below the cost of production in each case. But we believe that, in rendering these text-books easily available to the blind and those with sight alike, we are merely crowning our constant endeavour to place a highly technical subject on a sound basis, by ensuring, as far as we can ensure, that the musical instruction of the blind shall be undertaken in a thoroughly scientific manner.

Four years ago we issued a small booklet of carols, written and composed by the blind. These unique carols, published by Messrs. Novello, made an immediate and wide appeal, and each new series issued has been eagerly taken

up and rendered by choirs all over the country, representing churches of almost every denomination and ranging from the cathedral to the village chapel. For Christmas, 1927, a special booklet has been prepared, consisting of twelve of the most popular carols in the former booklets. We hope that this selection will meet with a similarly favourable reception, and that clergy, ministers, organists, choirmasters and choirs will continue their invaluable assistance by taking advantage of our offer to supply free copies of this carol booklet in return for a collection in aid of the Institute's work.

Forty organ recitals and lectures have been given in different parts of the country throughout the year, three being at the well-known London churches of St. Lawrence Jewry, St. Clement Danes, and Christ Church, Westminster. Nine blind organists and three blind vocalists participated in these recitals, which combine the employment of blind musicians with valuable propaganda work.

Free monthly organ recitals continue to be given in the Armitage Hall of the Institute on the first Wednesday of each month at 3 o'clock. On the first Wednesday in June and December, Mr. H. V. Spanner, Mus. Bac., F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., gives a recital in the same Hall, his programme



Specimen Pages of the Institute's "Key to the Braille Music Notation."

Annual Report—

being drawn from the current examination lists of the Royal College of Organists. These recitals are not only of service to blind candidates for the College's examinations, but they are instrumental in showing the musical profession that the blind can maintain the highest available standard in music playing. The organ—similar to that at the Royal College—is also always available to blind candidates for practising.

The Institute continues to receive orders for blind tuners. As qualified men only are sent to tune pianos, a single tuning frequently results in a regular contract.

The attention of our readers is again drawn to the "National Institute Edition of the Works of British Blind Composers" (for piano, organ and voice). Many of these pieces are now on the syllabuses of Academies of Music and in the programmes at Musical Competitive Festivals, a sufficient guarantee of their quality. Catalogues may be had on application.

Massage

(see also pages 33 and 45)

The Massage Department includes a School of Massage, Medical Gymnastics and Medical Electricity, a Massage Library and the Massage Department proper, incorporating the special After-Care Section. During the past year, four men and two women students presented themselves for examination in the three subjects mentioned above, and all successfully qualified; and two further men students qualified in Massage and Medical Electricity.

The four Gardner Scholarships founded by Gardner's Trust for the Blind were all awarded during the year.

The School, which is the one training centre for blind massage students in Great Britain, is recognised by the Chartered Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics (the highest examining body in the country) and approved by the Board of Education.

There are, at present, thirteen men students and one woman student in training. Careful attention is paid to the health of students, and, when necessary, medical and dental treatment is provided.

The Principal of the School and his assistants are all blind. The training in Medical Electricity is in charge of Dr. Murray Levick, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.), who has a blind assistant working under him; and Mr. P. Jenner Verrall, F.R.C.S. (Eng.), delivers a special course of lectures to blind students on Modern Orthopædics.

An interesting development has taken place in the Medical Electricity Department. Through the courtesy of the authorities of the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, blind students are allowed to attend at the hospital to carry out electrical treatments on patients, under the medical supervision of Dr. L. Danyers Bailey, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.), M.O. in charge of the department. In this way, valuable practical experience will be gained by blind students undergoing training in Medical Electricity.

Through the courtesy of the authorities of the Middlesex Hospital, the male students are able to carry out treatments on patients in the massage department of the hospital under the direction and supervision of the medical officer in charge. A similar privilege has been accorded to the women students by the authorities of St. George's Hospital.

Also of interest is the fact that two blind girls from Chorley Wood College are now being trained in the School of Massage. Arrangements were made for these candidates to undergo a special course of preliminary training to see how they would shape.

During the period under review, the eight students who have passed out from the Massage School have



A Practical Class at the Institute's School of Massage; the Instructor is himself Blind.

Annual Report—

all turned their attention to the building up of private practices. Two masseurs have been provided with full massage and electrical equipment to start in private clinics of their own, and two masseuses have been supplied with partial equipment to enable them to start a visiting practice. A full-time hospital appointment has been obtained for one masseuse, and a teaching and clinical appointment for another.

Arrangements are made for all blind masseurs and masseuses to receive expert advice from the Massage Department, and visits of inspection are paid to those clinics equipped by the Institute, so that the arrangement of apparatus and upkeep of the clinic may be supervised. Electrical accessories, drugs and every variety of massage and electrical equipment are procured at considerably reduced cost.

The following extracts from some of the many letters received by the Massage Department testify to the practical benefit afforded both during and after training :—

"I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my deep gratitude and thanks on behalf of myself and my son, for the generous assistance and help you have rendered him in connection with his training and settlement as a masseur. I feel that I cannot thank you sufficiently for the excellent tuition, kindness and attention you have given him. I can assure you, however, that he will do his very best to fulfil his duties in the new sphere of life the Institute has so kindly provided for him."

"Many thanks for your letter telling me you had written to doctors and dentists. You will be pleased to learn that your seed has not fallen on barren soil. My apparatus is working well. I think the discount you obtained for me was very good, and once again brings home to me how carefully and well you spend our money. I am glad to say business is good, thanks to the splendid way you have always supported me."

"Kindly accept the enclosed small donation to the Society. I only wish it were £100—even then it would fall far short of expressing my appreciation, not only of the practical help, but of the personal interest, which has always been shown in my work. I have been very busy and happy all the year, and I could not let it close without a word of thanks to the Society for all it means to us in this world of competition and fight against odds."

"This is just a note to thank the Committee and you personally for the very great trouble which has been taken in the launching of my new clinic. Your sympathy alone is an army in itself, and all the material benefits you have been instrumental in procuring for me are beyond thanks. In fact, one feels it a mission in life to express one's gratitude to the N.I.B.; not only is the help valuable, but the way in which it is given is perfect."

"You can imagine how delighted we are to know that our daughter was successful in passing her examinations. She certainly would not have passed if she had not been so happy with you all at the Institute; when one is happy, difficulties are more easily overcome."



Pupils at Chorley Wood College enjoying a walk in the beautiful Grounds.

"I beg to thank you for your letter, and to say that I have been in communication with several members of the local Infirmary Committee, who, I am sure, will do all they can to assist this masseur in obtaining employment for which he has been trained. The Chairman of the Blind Persons Act Sub-Committee is the Mayor of the Borough and Honorary Surgeon to the Infirmary, and he will do all he can to help him in his work. I have also written to the Secretary of the Infirmary, notifying him of your intention to lodge an application, and have asked him to give it every consideration and support. I think you may now proceed with your proposed steps to circularise the medical men in the district and the local Infirmary, and I can assure you that whatever influence can be brought to bear in favour of this blind masseur from the authority's side will be exerted. On behalf of the Local Authority, I thank you for the kindly interest you have displayed in this case and for the generous assistance and support the Institute is rendering." (From a Local Education Authority.)

Chorley Wood College

(see also pages 32 and 33.)

Chorley Wood College was founded in 1921 to provide girls with little or no sight with a public school education. There is accommodation for 45 pupils, and there are still some vacancies.

During the period under review, new junior pupils, including a little girl of six, have arrived, while several seniors have moved on towards wider careers. Of the latter, one is now working for a degree at St. Andrew's University, two have started massage training, and a fourth has found a good market for her handicraft work.

Owing to the recognition of the College by the Board of Education, it was possible during the year to hold the School Certificate Examination of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board at the College. One student, having gained the certificate, followed up her success by obtaining a

Annual Report—



Blind Babies have a keen sense of rhythm; here they are beating time while they sing.

place in the Girton College Scholarship and Entrance Examination sufficiently high to secure a vacancy at Girton next October.

In addition to the usual half-term entertainments, artistic enterprise has been shown in the performance of a long allegorical play, written, composed and produced by the pupils, and in the composition of pieces of music, and of prose and verse for the College magazine.

By means of a Bazaar held last October, the School Special Equipment and Exhibition Fund has benefited by approximately £300.

The Crafts Guild completed its first long session with a series of tests in house-crafts, first-aid, nature-study, etc., and there is every promise of a progressive future for this voluntary Guild.

Sport is by no means neglected at the College; swimming in the summer and "Sport X," the ball game invented at the College, are enthusiastically taken up by the girls.

Owing to the kindness of many friends, the year has seen a very full programme of lectures, entertainments and concerts.

The general health of the pupils has been good, and the period under review may be summed up as one of steady progress in all directions.

Homes for Blind Babies

(For N.I.B. Homes in general, see pages 32, 47 and 48.)

The three Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies, established and maintained by the Institute at Chorley Wood, Herts., Southport, Lancs., and

Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, fulfil a purpose in the blind world which is yearly becoming more vital in its effect. We have so frequently emphasised the importance we attach to the training of the blind from earliest infancy that we need not elaborate the point here. Indeed, it must be obvious to everyone who has ever been concerned with any educational system that the first five years of life are all-important in the formation of the foundations of character. But we take this opportunity of reasserting our considered opinion that the training of blind babies is a work of the highest national importance, because we feel that when all British blind babies are "Sunshine" babies

too, then the blind community will have much to hope for and little to fear in the future. The most vigorous progress always emanates from within a community, and it will rest with such blind men and women as it is hoped the Sunshine Homes will produce to transform the endeavour of to-day into the accomplishment of to-morrow. For as the danger to the blind community lies in the untrained children blind from birth, so does the hope of the sightless world live in the minds of those who even from infancy have the will and the knowledge to conquer blindness.

Below we give a table illustrating the work accomplished at the Blind Babies' Homes during the period under review :—

Admissions and Discharges for the year ended 31st March, 1927 :—

	Chorley Wood.	Southport.	Leamington.	Total
Number in Homes 31st March, 1926	24	22	26	72
Add Admissions during year	4	13	10	27
	28	35	36	99
Less Discharges	5	6	5	16
Totals on 31st March, 1927	23	29	31	83

Discharges—

- 8 Transferred to Residential Schools for the Blind.
- 2 Transferred to Day Schools for the Blind.
- 1 Transferred to Day Class for Partially Sighted Children.
- 1 Transferred to Home for Sighted Children—sight improved
- 4 Unsuitable for retention—Mental and Physical Disabilities.

Annual Report—

Examination of Blind Babies by Consultants during year ended 31st March, 1927 :—

Twenty-seven babies were examined and admitted, and nine were examined and rejected on account of mental and physical disabilities.

But the following extracts from the reports of the Kindergarten teachers at the Homes give a far better idea than any statistics of the value of the Homes :—

From Chorley Wood—

"From May until October we were able to work largely out-of-doors. This is a great delight to the children, and they all help in carrying apparatus and story books from the Kindergarten across the lawn and so to 'School' under the beech tree. They also help to arrange their little basket chairs and tables which are carefully packed away each afternoon in case of rain. The garden, as usual, provided much material for our Nature lessons. In the kitchen garden we gathered sage, lavender, mint, rosemary, thyme and southernwood, and some of these we dried and put into little bags so that we might have something to 'smell' all through the winter. In the autumn we gathered beech nuts and 'conquers' and the latter were pierced and threaded into necklaces. Sometimes we went in the 'sand pit,' and the children thoroughly enjoyed making sand pies.

"A very favourite occupation this year has been plasticine modelling. Some of the bigger children have made very creditable little models, whilst the wee ones have enjoyed rolling out long lengths and calling them 'drum-sticks.'"

From Southport—

"The children have worked very intelligently with the Montessori and sense-training apparatus, and indirectly have discovered interesting facts concerning objects in their apparatus that occur in their everyday life. From their apparatus they have discovered various dimensions, capacity, shapes, and the texture of most objects.

"Handwork has been governed by the children's interests. Subjects have been chosen in connection with Nature study, stories, and individual interests apart from lessons in raffia, wool winding and paper folding. The elder children undertook the task of making a Doll's House, but found the nailing of wood together rather a difficulty.

"They have been very interested in all types of stories about animals, flowers, fairies, and the seasons, but those that have the most appeal are about children, dolls, and everyday life. Many nursery rhymes and short poems have been learnt with great enthusiasm.

"The children, in the free-play periods, have developed their own individuality. A very happy social atmosphere has lasted through the whole year, and the children have shown great kindness to one another."

From Leamington—

"All the children join in marching, games and dancing, and the result is very pleasing and encouraging. Their dancing is the best I have seen, and requires quite a good amount of concentration.

"They learn both tunes and words of songs very quickly, and sing sweetly and in tune—most of them sing very nicely alone. Every morning we employ a few minutes by naming notes played on the piano—there is a great protest of disappointment if they think this 'game' has been forgotten. The majority can name the middle notes, say if notes are high or low, say if one is playing up the scale or down. Several of the older ones quickly give the key and time of a piece, and three children can name any note played on the piano and give the key of a common chord, no matter which octave it is played in. The sense of rhythm and time is satisfactory.

"Their powers of observation and concentration are quite good for their years, and each child is making definite progress."

The question of the retention up to the age of seven years of all children admitted to the Sunshine Homes has been discussed during the year, and it is considered that all requirements are met by the rule recognised by the Board of Education that children may be retained up to the age of seven years when, in the Institute's opinion, such retention is in the best interests of the children concerned.

It is naturally impossible to estimate any future number of blind babies. Fortunately, it appears to be decreasing; but should it be otherwise, and should the accommodation required exceed the existing accommodation, steps will be taken to establish a fourth Home.



Games in the Garden at "Sunshine House," Leamington Spa.

Annual Report--

Convalescent and Holiday Home

During the period under review this Home at St. Leonards-on-Sea provided accommodation for 345 visitors, of whom 158 were men and 187 were women. They appear to have enjoyed themselves thoroughly while at the Home, and many letters of gratitude have been received.

Concerts and dances were arranged throughout the winter. Some of the girls have shown great interest in music, and have sung in public at Church concerts.

The Christmas party was a great success, and was followed by a New Year's party organised by the visitors themselves in a thoroughly capable manner.

There has been a good deal of serious illness

tion for thirteen more. No restrictions are placed upon the guests, and the days pass happily by. Thanks to the kindness of local residents, there are plenty of amusements, and concerts and readings are regularly provided. The health of the guests has been wonderfully good, and this is undoubtedly due to a large extent to regular exercise and fresh air afforded by the extensive grounds.

We regret to report that there have been three deaths during the year, but two cases out of the three had reached the ripe age of over 80 years.

Clifton Home for Blind Women

This Home, at 9 Gordon Road, Clifton, had its full number of inmates (twelve) until last Decem-



A Group of Typical "Sunshine Babies."

throughout the year, and our sincerest thanks are due to the staff of the Royal East Sussex Hospital who have shown invariable kindness to all blind patients there.

It should be mentioned that the establishment of a Convalescent and Holiday Home in the North of England has recently been considered, but as yet no actual decision has been made.

Guest House for Aged Blind Ladies

This beautiful house at Chester, with its spacious grounds, was given to the Institute by Mr. and Mrs. Hayes to perpetuate the memory of their son who lost his life in the Great War. It was originally intended to be a guest house for blind persons of both sexes in reduced circumstances, but at present all its twenty residents are women, there being accommoda-

tion for thirteen more. The health of the inmates has been good.

The annual Gift Day took place on the 25th June, when the Home was open all day to receive gifts in money or in kind. On January 21st the women's own annual party was held, at which all the entertaining was done by the blind women themselves.

Ladies resident in the district visit the home every day, to read or to play music, or to take the women for walks and entertain them at their own houses. Concerts have been given at the Home, and tickets for concerts and theatres have been received. The wireless is also much enjoyed.

This Home is registered separately from the Institute under the Blind Persons Act, 1920. Accordingly, a separate Balance Sheet is included on page 70. The National Institute for the Blind

Annual Report—

and Sir Washington Ranger, D.C.L., are Trustees of the Home.

Brighton Home for Blind Women

The average number of blind women resident in this Home during the year was eighteen.

The health of the women has been good.

Some of the younger women belong to the Guild of Blind Gardeners, and run an allotment; they secured eleven prizes during the year.

Voluntary helpers continue to visit the Home, assisting in mending and letter-writing, reading to the women and taking them for walks. Carriage, motor and steamer trips have been arranged, and the women frequently receive tickets for concerts, while two Brighton theatres have generously presented the Home with free passes for the year.

Hostels for Blind Women

The Hostel at 38 and 40 Langham Street, London, W., continues its service as a residential club for blind women employees and students. The present number of residents is 32.

The following extracts from letters received from residents obliged to leave the Hostel speak for themselves :—

"As an N.I.B. worker, I should like to say how much I have appreciated being able to live at the Club, especially as I have no other home. I thank you, and through you the Committee, for all the advantages I have enjoyed during the past eight years."

"I want to thank you for all the facilities that have been offered me during the past nine years. I have been very happy at the Club, and, not being a worker at the N.I.B., have greatly appreciated being able to live there. I know my parents would wish to join me in saying thank you for all that has been done for my comfort."

An interesting experiment was approved during the year. The leasehold of premises at 8 Oval Road, Regent's Park, N.W., having been acquired, it was decided to open here a new Hostel to be run on somewhat different lines to those followed at the existing Hostel. A caretaker, with her sister, lives in the basement, and the remainder of the house has been reconstructed and furnished by the Institute.

Each resident has a separate (or shares a) bed-sitting room, and there is a general sitting room. A small rental covers the use of both, but each resident is responsible for the cleaning of her room, which is provided with a gas-fire and a gas-ring with meter to enable each resident to do her own cooking if she so desires. A common breakfast can be served by the caretakers, who can also arrange with each resident for any cooking or cleaning required. The internal management of the Home is in the hands of a visitor nominated by the Homes Committee.

This new Hostel will accommodate seven girls.

The Institute will not seek to recoup the capital expenditure of approximately £2,000.

The Greater London Fund

Encouraged by the uninterrupted progress of the Greater London Fund during the last five years, we looked forward to its continued growth during 1926-7. Unhappily, this anticipation of progress was frustrated by the general and coal strikes, which had a very serious effect upon the regular income of the Fund. Geranium Day had



Blind Residents taking a stroll at the Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Annual Report—



Voluntary Helpers making Emblems for sale on Geranium Day.

to be postponed, and, in consequence, many regular depot holders and collectors were unable to assist. Many levies and collections were diverted to relief funds, and later in the year, on account of the fuel shortage, works were shut down or run on half time, so that revenue from this source was very considerably reduced. Social events were postponed or abandoned, and it became increasingly difficult to organise others of the kind. These difficulties continued throughout the whole financial year. Increased efforts were made by the staff to check the decline and open up new sources of revenue, and the organisers, who are nearly all blind, readily gave untiring and self-sacrificing service. That their efforts were not unsuccessful is shown by the figures for the year which are set out in the following table of comparative results :—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE GREATER LONDON FUND FROM ITS INCEPTION TO 31st MARCH, 1927

	16 months ending 31st March, 1922	Year ending 31st March, 1923	Year ending 31st March, 1924	Year ending 31st March, 1925	Year ending 31st March, 1926	Year ending 31st March, 1927
	£		£	£	£	£
GROSS RECEIPTS	•50,712	39,678	44,894	46,436	53,830	50,539
EXPENDITURE	•27,143	20,522	21,428	20,704	23,341	22,028
DISTRIBUTION :—						
National Institute	10,000	10,000	10,000	12,000	14,000	12,000
Participating Institutions	10,000	10,000	10,000	12,000	14,018	15,000
Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Associations	800	1,000	800	800	900	1,260
Other Societies	—	—	—	700	1,100	1,791
	£20,800	£21,000	£20,800	£25,500	£30,018	£30,051

* On the basis of these figures, the estimated Gross Receipts and Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1922, may be taken as £38,034 and £20,358 respectively

It should be noted that included in "Expenditure" is the money paid in salaries, wages, etc., to blind members of the Fund's staff, which, last year, amounted to £12,904. This, of course, represents a distinct service to the blind.

Geranium Day, the Fund's annual street collection, was not only held at a time of great unrest, but it was also seriously affected by the stormy weather; consequently, the gross total of £8,185 showed a reduction of £943 compared with that of the previous year. Thousands of ladies, however, braved the weather, and to them the blind of London owe a special debt of gratitude.

The Ladies' Committee, under the presidency of Lady Fulton; the Theatrical Committee, over which Dame Madge Kendal so effectively presides; the officials and members of the Circles of "Helpers of the Blind" in all parts of London, and those of the Printing and Kindred Trades Blind Aid Committee, have, throughout the year, all rendered invaluable service. Without the unremitting support of these loyal and unwearied friends, the Fund would not be able to help the voluntary societies to carry on their necessary and varied services for the 7,500 blind men, women and children in Greater London. The Management Committees of the Workshops have stated over and over again how much they rely on the amounts allocated to them from the Fund, and the grants made to the other societies and institutions are also undoubtedly much appreciated.

Annual Report—

Many instances might be given of the value of the work financed by the Fund, but the following are, perhaps, of special interest :—

- (1) Twenty years ago the average wage earned by the blind was somewhere about 15/- per week. Last year, the average payment made per week to blind men was £2 3s. 2d., and to blind women £1 15s. 4d.
- (2) When the Fund was opened 525 workers were employed in the institutions concerned. Last year the number was 792, and, in addition, 82 were employed in their own homes (in the Administrative County of London) under the Home Workers' Schemes carried out by two of the participating institutions (see pages 49-50).
- (3) Six years ago only about 100 blind women were employed, whereas the number now employed is approximately 350.

These results encourage us to appeal for the continued support of the friends of the Fund, and to hope that as the Fund is organised on sound, progressive, business-like lines, and is an outstanding example of that co-operation and combination which are the most marked characteristics of the modern business world, increasing numbers of kind-hearted men and women will come forward to help. Especially do we need volunteers to sell emblems on Geranium Day.

In these times when, as it has been cynically said, "there are 365 flag days every year, excepting Leap Year when there are 366," it is an ungrateful task; but we feel sure that no one who has ever witnessed, or even essayed to imagine, the change regular employment and independence bring to the facial expression of a blind man or woman almost brutally accustomed to the constant rebuffs of fortune, will ever regret devoting not hours but days and weeks to the service of the sightless.

After-Care

At the conclusion of another year's work, it is intensely gratifying to be able once more to record a rich measure of successful effort. Though in many directions our activities have undergone changes necessitated by the regulations

of the Ministry of Health, the administration generally has been improved, and the closest co-operation maintained with agencies for the blind throughout the country. Broadly speaking, we only administer relief with the knowledge and consent of the local agencies; and we employ, as far as is possible, the machinery at the disposal of these organisations for this purpose, thereby avoiding overlapping and guaranteeing, in consequence, efficient administration.

During the past year 520 new cases were reported to us and satisfactory treatment was accorded to them, either by the Institute or jointly as between the appropriate local association and this organisation. The amount expended in relief during the period under review was £4,930, in addition to which £3,717 was paid in augmentation of wages, and a further sum of £418 was expended on wireless equipment for the blind. The grants for higher education amounted to £1,054; trade training fees were £265, and the sum expended from the Ex-Service Men's Fund (see below) was £1,633.

Fourteen persons were supplied with dentures, and a number with various surgical instruments. The Christmas Parcels Fund was again a very successful effort. In addition to a considerable number of Christmas gifts provided by the Institute's Branches, 672 parcels were despatched from Headquarters.

It is gratifying to learn from testimonials received from sightless persons all over the country that the work of the Department is so



One of the Bed-Sitting Rooms at the Institute's New Hostel for Blind Women (See page 21).

Annual Report—



Outdoor Wireless at the Convalescent and Holiday Home,
St. Leonards-on-Sea.

highly appreciated. In addition to the duties mentioned a considerable amount of correspondence is received asking for advice and guidance, and the Department is always pleased to give all the helpful information at its disposal not only to blind persons but to others interested in welfare work in all parts of the world.

Ex-Service Men's Fund

The purposes of this Fund, under the immediate care of our Chairman, Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, are the training and after-care of men who are blind or may become blind on returning to civilian life after discharge from His Majesty's Forces, and of blind dependents of serving or ex-service men. The cases covered include those of blind ex-service men who for one reason or another are ineligible for assistance by St. Dunstan's, and who have no pensions on account of blindness.

The Fund has the sympathy and the financial support of the Admiralty, the Army Council and the Air Council, and the following well-known officers have identified themselves with its objects: Admirals of the Fleet Lord Beatty and Sir Charles Madden; Field Marshals Lord Allenby and Sir William Robertson; Air Marshals Sir Hugh Trenchard and Sir John Salmond. An appeal to all units in His Majesty's Forces has again been

made by these distinguished officers, and many units have most generously responded, several becoming annual subscribers.

The Fund is generally administered as follows:

Each case receives individual attention, and assistance is given in various ways which can be summarised under three headings:

- (1) By direct and sole assistance from the Fund.
- (2) By co-operation with local agencies for the blind in districts where the men reside and are undergoing training. In some instances assistance is also given through Branches of the British Legion.
- (3) By giving additional financial assistance to those who are, owing to old age and physical disability, untrainable and unemployable.

The reason for these diverse methods is that the Fund is not yet financially strong enough to shoulder the entire responsibility of the work. This can be easily understood; the cost of training one blind man is anything from £90 to £200 per annum (according to the profession or trade), and the training may occupy from one to three years. Also, the cost of maintaining each untrainable and unemployable blind man is from £100 to £150 per annum.

Approximately 200 cases are now being assisted by the Fund, and the following extracts from letters of appreciation are typical, and prove how much the Fund is appreciated:—

"Now I must thank you personally for the many efforts you have made on my behalf. I know you have worked very hard for me, and without your efforts I had little chance. If I appeared during my course as a very discontented individual, may I ask you to account that to my many anxieties, which at that time seemed to me insurmountable. I really thought at the time that my fate was well and truly sealed, for my knowledge of blind people was confined to a tin mug and a forlorn-looking mongrel sitting on a pavement. We will let that pass, for I have since felt that exquisite feeling of receiving my first week's earnings, and the choicest wines could not have given me a better stimulation."

"As I have been promised the first chance of a house through Matron's influence, I am going to wed at Christmas. If I am lucky enough to settle comfortably, I shall thank the N.I.B. for that chance. I reserve the last thanks, but not least, for the training I received, which has enabled me to earn my bread and marmalade."

"I wish to express my deep gratitude for the great

Annual Report—

interest you have taken in me since losing my sight, both during my training in telephony and your effectual effort to obtain employment afterwards. I understand that I have now been placed on the permanent staff here as a telephonist. The board on which I work has four exchange lines and forty extensions. It is needless to say that work of this kind is totally different from any of my previous career as a sailor, but I am confident the splendid training I have received will enable me to prove myself worthy of your help and recommendation."

Home Industries

The Institute's Home Industries Scheme is fully described on page 49, in the section devoted to the work of the Home Industries Committee.

It is the largest in the country, and during the past year 198 blind men and women have been assisted in their efforts to earn their own livelihood. The withdrawal of several workers has been found necessary, owing to ill-health or to their inability to fulfil the regulations of the Ministry of Health; but several new workers have been enrolled, and at the close of the year our register contained the names of 184 workers.

It is gratifying to report that, as a result of a visit of inspection paid by his Inspector to the home workers in the area covered by the Institute's scheme, the Minister of Health expressed his keen appreciation of the success which has attended this section of our work.



The Staff Restaurant at the Institute's Headquarters.



A Round of Whist at the Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonard's-on-Sea.

It has always been felt that the Home Workers Scheme would only succeed if by its means *regular* employment could be secured for home workers. It is therefore with the greatest satisfaction we record that, in spite of the industrial unrest, our trade has continued to expand, the sales reaching the record amount of £10,000, an increase of £2,500 from last year's figure. This result is due very largely to the success which has attended our Exhibitions and Motor Travelling Shop during the year, and to the efforts of the many friends who have organised sales of work, resulting in the Institute purchasing goods from home workers to the value of £3,700. It must be remembered that these Exhibitions and Sales of Work are arranged for the sole purpose of selling goods produced by home workers, and not as a means of raising funds.

In continuance of our policy of co-operating with other institutions for the blind by disposing of goods produced by blind work people, the Institute has placed orders with many workshops for the blind in various parts of the country amounting in value to £3,352.

The County and County Borough Councils, on whose behalf the Institute is conducting the Scheme, have continued their financial support. All grants received from these authorities, amounting last year to £2,771, have been expended by us in augmenting the earnings of the home workers in the stipulated areas.

Annual Report—

The sum of £410 has been expended during the past year in providing equipment. Several workshops have been erected for the use of basket-makers, and several knitters have been supplied with new knitting machines. Gifts of materials to the value of £108 have been made to necessitous cases.

Orders are urgently required for the goods produced by our blind workers. It is hoped that all interested in the cause of the blind will make a point of obtaining baskets, mats, brushes, knitted goods, etc., from the Home Industries Department, 47 Woodlands Road, Redhill, Surrey, or from the Institute's Showroom, 224 Great Portland Street, London, W.1.

Technical and Research Work

The Institute's technical and research work, which has recently been productive of many interesting and important developments, is controlled by the Technical and Research Committee (see page 4), and a full account of the Committee's activities is given on pages 40-42. We must mention, however, that one branch of the Committee's work, namely, the examination of all possible means of employing the blind in world industries, assumed such large proportions that, in order to deal adequately with the matter, it was found necessary to form a special Appointments Board (see page 4). A full account of the aims of the new Board and of what has already been accomplished in this direction will be found on pages 43-46.

Wireless

We have already expressed our sense of the significance of wireless in the world of the blind. There is every prospect, in fact, that the provision to the blind of all wireless facilities, such as sets, apparatus, programmes, technical information, supervision, etc., will eventually become one of the most necessary and useful of all national services for the blind—one which should eventually equal in extent, value and evolutionary effect the provision of embossed literature.

Wireless has not only brought endless pleasure to blind people, but has literally changed their entire outlook. With the headphones at his ears, a blind man is equal in all respects to a man with sight; the whole world is open to him, and he can become acquainted with life from every aspect revealed by the microphone.

Accordingly, there cannot be many blind people who would wilfully refrain from taking advantage of the privilege a wireless set affords. But lack of even the comparatively small amount of money required to purchase and maintain a set is preventing thousands of blind people in all parts of the country from entering into a world beyond a blind man's dreams not so very long ago. Thanks to Captain Ian Fraser, and other members of Parliament, the blind now possess statutory right to free wireless licences, but—as it has been aptly expressed—"a free dog kennel is not of great use to one unable to afford a dog!"

However, the granting of free licences is one step forward; the provision by the Institute of the "Braille Radio Times" is another; and the Institute is doing its best to meet the very urgent need for wireless sets. But lack of special funds for this object has prevented any marked progress during the past year. As a result of the various appeals 362 wireless sets and 180 headphones have been received; these gifts and donations from various sources have enabled the Institute to distribute, with the help of the various local agencies, 796 wireless sets and 1,040 headphones to the blind throughout the country.

The waiting list for sets is still very large, and is considerably augmented every day. It is a pleasure, however, to find in the daily post, apart from the requests, such appreciations as the following—one amongst a large number:—

"Thank you very, very much for the crystal set which reached me quite safely last Thursday. It is more than beautiful, and I have spent such a delightful Christmas with it. It is wonderfully clear, and I am more than happy about it. Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for it."

What better return can there be for a charitable action than such a response?

Home Teaching Society

In our last report we gave an outline of the important changes that had taken place in this branch of the Institute's work, as a result of the Blind Persons Act, 1920. Briefly the home teaching service, carried on so many years by the Society, has been handed over to newly-formed local associations for the blind, and is being conducted with greater efficiency. One important but inevitable result of the change, however, has been that a number of blind home teachers, all with many years' loyal service to their credit, have been thrown out of employment. As their age does not permit them to train for other occupations, they have to be

WHAT MONEY BRINGS TO THE BLIND

BRaille BOOKS
BRaille PERIODICALS
BRaille MUSIC
WIRELESS FACILITIES
EDUCATION
MASSAGE TRAINING
EMPLOYMENT
HOME OCCUPATIONS
GAMES
APPARATUS
BLIND BABIES' HOMES
CONVALESCENT & OTHER HOMES
THE WILL TO LIVE
INDEPENDENCE



PLEASE HELP THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND PROVIDE THESE AND OTHER ESSENTIAL SERVICES.

The MAGIC WAND of MONEY



TRANSFORMS GLOOM AND DESPAIR INTO LIGHT AND HAPPINESS BY MEANS OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

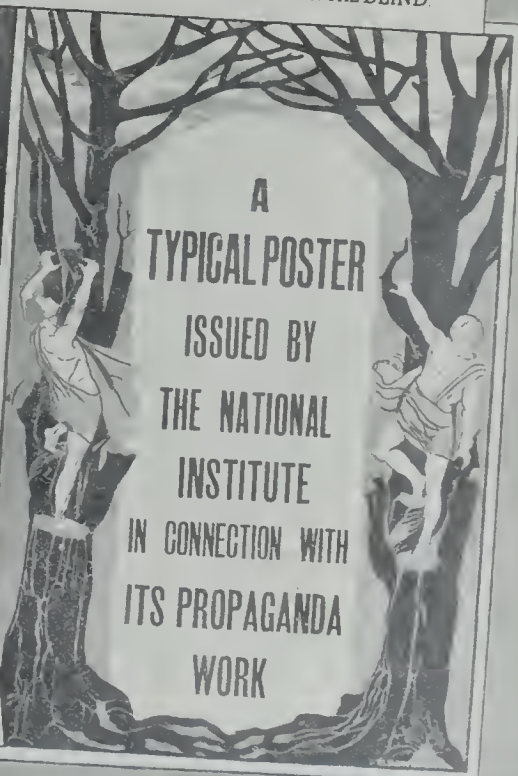
THE BLIND CALLING



THE NEW
MAYK HELP
TO HELP
THEMSELVES

Will you help the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND provide the blind in England & Wales with musical literature facilities, apparatus, sets & employment, training in other words, will you provide the welfare of the blind of all classes from birth to old age?

A
TYPICAL POSTER
ISSUED BY
THE NATIONAL
INSTITUTE
IN CONNECTION WITH
ITS PROPAGANDA
WORK



Some examples of Appeals issued by the Institute, showing how it endeavours to interest the General Public in its Work.

Annual Report—

regularly assisted by weekly allowances from the Institute. The sum of £921 has been expended in this way during the past year.

Now that the reorganisation of the home teaching service has been completed, we have under consideration the question of winding up the Home Teaching Society and transferring any remaining work to the Institute.

College and Association of Teachers of the Blind

The Institute continues to assist the College and Association of Teachers of the Blind by affording office accommodation and clerical assistance, and by permitting the Assistant Secretary of the Institute to act as Honorary Registrar of the College.

Arrangements have been made for the Institute to provide sighted candidates for the College's Home Teachers' Examination with postal lessons in Braille at a fee of one guinea for a course not exceeding three months.

Henry Stainsby Memorial Fund

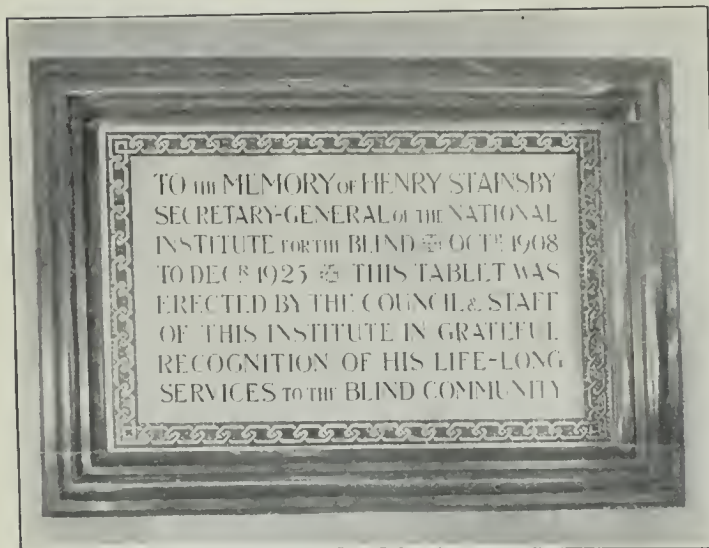
Last year we reported the inauguration of a fund, to be known as the "Henry Stainsby Memorial Gift Fund for the Blind," to perpetuate the memory of the late Secretary-General of the Institute. The sum received has now amounted to £1,268; an income of from £60 to £70

per annum should, therefore, be available for distribution in accordance with the terms of the Fund Committee's recommendations. Arrangements are now being made to appoint a further Committee to administer the Fund.

A mural memorial tablet has been placed in the entrance hall of the Institute's Headquarters, Great Portland Street. The cost of making and erecting this tablet was defrayed from the first donations received from members of the Institute's staff.

Employment of the Blind

Having now completed our review of the Institute's various departments, we wish to draw particular attention to two facts of vital importance. The first of these is that, in every branch of the work described, we employ wherever possible the blind themselves. In the various publishing departments there are blind stereotypers, proof-readers and assistants who help to collate and to bind; a large proportion of the Institute's collecting staff are blind; blind concert artists assist to raise funds; blind typists and telephonists are employed at Headquarters. But not only are the blind valuable subordinates; they are capable organisers, and as such fill important positions on the Institute's staff. The principal of the Massage School, the head of the After-Care Department, the Joint Secretaries of the Greater London Fund, and one of the heads of the Music Department, are all blind, and their blindness is in no sense detrimental to their work. Indeed, it is in some degree an asset, as their own experience of blindness gives them that deeper knowledge of the needs of the blind which always tends to a wiser application of relief and assistance. It would be exceptional, for example, for one blind man to treat another, however different their stations in life, with that really degrading pity which so frequently mars the efforts of generous but misguided philanthropists. Sympathetic understanding should be the keynote of all ameliorative work; and sympathy with, and wide knowledge of, the blind world can best be acquired by employing the blind wherever possible in executive work, and by fostering the principle of including as many blind people as possible in governing councils and committees. A glance at the list of the members of the Insti-



Mural Tablet at Headquarters in memory of the late Secretary-General of the Institute.

Annual Report—

tute's Executive Council (see pages 5 and 6), in which an asterisk indicates those who are blind, will show that we have put into practice this latter principle; while, as to the former, the present number of blind men and women employed by the Institute is 200, to whom, during the period under review, the sum of £43,259 was paid in salaries, wages, etc.

We take this opportunity of mentioning the kindness of the British Empire Shakespeare Society in giving many dramatic readings at the Institute for the benefit of our employees. These readings have been very greatly appreciated, not only by them but by blind persons working in other London institutions to whom invitations are always extended.

Propaganda Work

The other important fact we mentioned is our constant endeavour to provide attractive and effective propaganda. There is no doubt that prior to the last decade the general impression of the man in the street as to the blind world was as dark as that world's darkness. In other words, he saw in a blind man an entirely useless person, nothing but a very pitiful and rather disagreeable mendicant on whom money could never be economically expended. The pages of this report alone are sufficient to destroy once and for all this absurd idea if it still exists, but we believe that nowadays blind people are accepted more as examples of how to overcome affliction than examples of a very dreary patience under it. This revised opinion is the fruit of propaganda, and it is propaganda alone that will keep it alive, strengthen it and extend its prevalence. We firmly believe that the more people come to recognise that to give money for the blind is not so much to relieve distress as to assist initiative and intelligence, the greater will be the amount of money subscribed. We therefore have no hesitation in devoting much time and effort to propaganda work. It is expensive, but it is not a luxury, and because it must ever be the root which gives sustenance to our work, reasonable expenditure on propaganda is justified. For instance, in presenting our Annual Report, we might have given the bare outlines of the year's work in a few pages of dry facts and figures, but they would have given an entirely false impression of the ceaseless activity and progress of the blind world. Attractive pictures, photographs, diagrams, films, stories, interesting booklets—by such means alone can the true significance of the blind world be interpreted; and we consider that one of our essential duties is to bring that sig-



Blind Employees enjoying the fresh air on the Roof of the Institute's Headquarters in Gt. Portland Street, London.

nificance constantly before the public. In this we are immensely aided by the generosity of the Press throughout the British Empire. To the Press the blind owe an immeasurable debt of gratitude; it is ever ready not only to give publicity to appeals, to interesting stories, to snapshots, to the particulars of new developments, but to support work for the blind generally by every means in its power. It is largely due to this unfailing interest and help of the Press that work for the blind, even despite the increasing difficulty of raising the necessary funds, is in its present healthy and progressive condition.

To supply the Press and individuals with all possible information about the blind, the Institute has an Information Bureau which collects all useful information concerning the blind and the various institutions working on their behalf. All such information is recorded on cards easily available for reference purposes.

Annual Report—

Appointments and Resignations

During the period under review there have been one or two resignations from our various committees and many appointments thereto. We have not space at our disposal to report these separately, but on page 4 we give a full list of the present members of the Executive Council, and of all Committees and Boards appointed or established by the Council during the year.

Obituary

It is with deep regret that we have to report the death on September 7th, 1926, of Miss Laura B. Douglas-Hamilton, for many years a member of the Institute's Executive Council and more recently a vice-president of the Institute. She

when, at the beginning of the present year, our Chairman was created by His Majesty the King a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order. All who know him know also that Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., is indeed worthy of this latest of his honours. For the last 26 years no single person to our knowledge has devoted more thought and labour to the cause of the blind, and we trust that the years may be many in which he will continue to be what he has always been—one of the truest friends and most loyal of colleagues anyone, with or without sight, could have.

Statements of Account

Audited statements of account are appended



Captain Sir Beachcroft Towse, V.C., K.C.V.O., C.B.E., Chairman of the Executive Council, at work in his office.

was an expert Brailist, compiling both a dictionary and a grammar in Braille type, and she started the "Eyes to the Blind" Society, now incorporated with the Barclay Workshop for Blind Women; in fact, practically her whole life was devoted to the cause of the blind.

A Well-Deserved Honour

Before closing this report, we wish to record the sincerest feelings of pleasure we all experienced

to this report (see pages 51-74). These are given in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health or the Board of Education.

In conclusion, we wish to thank Almighty God for His guidance in the past, and to beseech Him so to bless our future efforts that all for whom we work may continue to benefit therefrom.

The next section of this report deals successively with the work of the Institute's Committees. There are many aspects from which the Institute's work can be viewed, and we hope that by asking our supporters to attend, as it were, a meeting of each Committee, they will gain a clearer insight than heretofore into the objects of that work. They will be more or less viewing the Institute's activities from the inside; they will see the difficulties with which each Committee is confronted, the methods adopted to overcome them, and the means by which each Committee tries to bring to every individual in the blind community the full benefit of its work. In brief, they will learn a little of the ideas behind the facts already reported.

THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND

AS ALL THE INSTITUTE'S WORK IS EDUCATIVE IN CHARACTER THE ACTIVITIES OF ITS EDUCATION COMMITTEE ARE OF FIRST IMPORTANCE

THE Education Committee (see page 4) of the National Institute was formed in 1925, and its terms of reference are :—

1. Authority to investigate and control all educational matters.
2. Authority to act as managers of :—
 - (a) The Chorley Wood College for the higher education of girls with little or no sight.
 - (b) The Massage Department of the Institute.
 - (c) The educational side of the Blind Babies' Homes in co-operation with the Homes Committee.
 - (d) The Students' Library and the Library of the Massage Department.
3. Authority to supervise the production of manuscript books for educational purposes and to make recommendations to the Publications Committee with regard to educational works which, in the opinion of the Education Committee, should be stereotyped.
4. Authority to co-operate with the Technical and Research Committee as to the selection of suitable models and apparatus for the use of the blind.
5. Authority to make recommendations to the Council with regard to the founding, allocation and financing of scholarships, including those tenable at Public Schools and Universities, and also with regard to the payment of any students' fees deemed advisable.

At first glance it will be seen that the work of this Committee is largely co-operative with the work of other Committees. This is because, broadly speaking, the entire work of the Institute is educative in character. Relief work is the starting point of most philanthropic work for the blind; but, unless it develops into progressive educative work, its life and value are limited by individuals. Indeed, the effect of relief work is often the reverse of beneficial if it is uncoupled with educative work of some nature.

Accordingly, the scope of the Education Committee's vision really must extend to every activity of the Institute, and it is therefore, perhaps, more an advisory than an executive committee. Strictly speaking, education is synonymous with progress, and the main duty of an education committee must always be to conceive, suggest and supervise ways and means to the substantiation, betterment and extension of any vital idea.

The Educational Principle at Work

The mere mention of a few landmarks in the growth of the Institute will prove that the educational principle has always governed the Institute's work.

The adaptation of Braille to the English language was followed by the wider dissemination of Braille literature. Embossed pamphlets were followed by embossed books, books by journals, journals by newspapers, reading matter by diagrams. Old Style Braille was followed by Grade 1, Grade 1 by Grade 2, literature by music, simple music notation by a complete and thorough system. Again, relief work expanded into elementary education and training in handicrafts; the former led to higher education; the latter to training in technical professions. A more subtle line of growth is illustrated by the recognition of the importance of education and training in earliest infancy, and the consequent establishment of the Blind Babies' Homes; while even more important, yet even less definable, has been the result of a study of the psychology of the blind and the influence of the attitude adopted by philanthropic work on their behalf—a development which has substituted the living waters of sympathy for the Dead Sea of pity, and has formed and nourished a flower in a blind man's soul where once was no life but the negative life of a weed.

Different Aspects of Educational Work

The educational work now carried on at the Blind Babies' Homes, Chorley Wood College and the School of Massage is described on pages 16-19. Each of these activities may be regarded as an illustration of the different aspects from which the Education Committee has to consider the problems confronting it.

The educational system adopted at the Blind Babies' Homes illustrates the adaptation of education to meet the deficiencies of blindness; that at the School of Massage illustrates the adaptation of education to meet the proficiencies of blindness; and that at the Chorley Wood College illustrates the blending of the two.

At the Blind Babies' Homes, a defect is to be overcome; at the School of Massage, a quality is to be fostered; at the Chorley Wood College, qualities are ascertained or instilled.

Every individual case, therefore, which comes before the Education Committee must be examined from these three points of view, *i.e.*, Are there still defects of blindness to be overcome?

The Education of the Blind—

Are there as yet definite qualities or abilities to be ascertained or instilled? Is there any outstanding ability to be nourished?

Education of Blind Babies

It can be readily understood that the constant examination of the first question led to the primary reason for the establishment of the Blind Babies' Homes, namely, the knowledge that the defects of blindness are infinitely harder to eradicate when the character is formed than in infancy. People who lose their sight in later life are consciously in the position of infants, obliged to learn how to walk, eat, read, write and so on; and to conquer their blindness each individual has to enter, as it were, his or her "Blind Babies' Home." Otherwise, like the untrained, or rather wrongly trained, actual blind baby, their only acquirements will be how to walk incorrectly, eat incorrectly, read incorrectly, write incorrectly, etc.

The establishment of the Blind Babies' Homes was therefore an immense advance in the education of the blind. Each successful "Sunshine" baby is the foundation stone of a fair building, the healthy seed of a promising flower; each is able to take full advantage of every opportunity afforded by the approved elementary schools for the blind in all parts of the country. Its after-career will depend on its own innate abilities or on the financial position of its parents; but, whatever handicraft or profession is adopted, the pupil's intelligence should be ripe to receive

every educational help afforded to blindness to-day.

Public School Education

But it would not be just to the blind to deprive them of all chance of a public school education. Yet while Worcester College had long offered a first-class public school education to blind boys, until 1921 no such facilities existed for blind girls.

It was for the "public school" type of blind girl that Chorley Wood College was then founded. Before its establishment, the only form of training available for her was individual tuition by home teachers of the blind or the unfair competition of a school for girls with eyesight. Now, however, the blind girl can enjoy the happiness of being normal, of being a necessary part of a whole rather than an isolated unit outside a whole. As the well-known ophthalmic surgeon, Mr. N. Bishop Harman, has said in his description in the *British Medical Journal* of Chorley Wood College: "The shy, solitary, self-centred blind girl soon learns through comradeship to cast off that sense of separateness which a physical handicap is apt to engender, and in so doing takes the first step to the acquisition of independence. . . . To be taught in company with others is infinitely more stimulating to the mind than the monotony of the most assiduous solitary teaching, whilst the play of wits engendered by life in a community such as a public school of itself affords a training that will give the blind girl a capacity for independence of judgment and of action which is an endowment of no mean advantage in these days."

But what of the Worcester boy or the Chorley Wood girl when he or she leaves College? How are they to earn their living in the face of strenuous haffling modern competition? This, perhaps, is the most difficult problem with which any education committee working for the blind has to cope. For, in dealing with the blind, educational work does not end with the definite attainment of a specific degree of knowledge. If it did, progressive work for the blind would be at an end; and, as work can never be stationary, educational work for the blind would decline. The brain of every man or woman in this world is either growing or declining in power. Those with eyesight, once free from school or university, for the most part educate themselves, but sightless people must always



Blind Girls at Chorley Wood College studying from Braille Books.

The Education of the Blind—

be to a certain extent dependent on outside assistance of some kind. When every known method of helping the blind is exhausted, then new methods must be discovered. The eternal optimism of the blind must for ever teach those who wish to help them that to stay that help is no less ridiculous than putting a stop to scientific discovery and inventions, or bidding Nature to cease her infinite permutations.

Massage as a Profession

The discovery of massage as a suitable profession for the blind was a far greater epoch-making event in the blind world than, at first thought, it appears to be. Here is a profession in which the blind can not only compete on equal terms, but can excel. Yet it took thousands of years to discover it!

As a spur to optimism, the achievements of the blind masseurs and masseuses are invaluable. Who knows what time-honoured profession may be lurking round the corner for the blind to grapple with and dominate? But it must not be imagined that every blind man or woman is a future masseur or masseuse.

The Education Committee has recently approved and adopted a series of rules, framed by the Massage Department, for guidance in accepting a massage student. Mental and medical reports on each candidate have to be obtained and examined, and an examination as to general and special suitability for the profession has to be made. A consensus of opinion as to prospects from a minimum of six medical men in the candidate's area must also be forthcoming, and the home conditions inspected; while every student, having satisfactorily fulfilled these conditions, is only finally accepted on the result of a test examination after a probation period of one month.

Careful Selection for Higher Education

The above system of careful selection must always be utilised in applying higher education or training. The education committee which should discover the way to a new profession or industry for the blind would be asking for trouble if it permitted haphazard applicants to make a mess of things. As in the sighted, so in the blind world—clergymen, writers, insurance agents and artisans are born and not made; and the duty of an education committee is not only to find the



Blind Pupils at Chorley Wood College playing a specially invented Ball Game—"Sport X."

way to teach blind people to be clergymen, writers, insurance agents and artisans, but to find the right men for the right jobs. For instance, one or two incompetent blind masseurs might damn the whole profession.

Education Grants

In making financial grants to individual students, the Committee is again always face to face with a most difficult problem. Philanthropy, given a free course, would offer every ambitious blind person unlimited financial help. But lack of means is continually saying "Nay." Experiment with untested cases is too extravagant, and it is most difficult to form a true judgment from factors which are in all cases bound to be problematical. It says much, therefore, for the care and experience of the Committee to find that the majority of grants made are justified by the results. It should be noted that included amongst such grants made by the Education Committee are grants in respect to University training, education at Worcester College, Chorley Wood College, and training at the School of Massage, while special training grants have been recently recommended for those taking up the profession of music.

A Library for Students

In addition to this specific help, the Education Committee gives general help to blind students training for examinations and to blind members of the professions who wish to progress in their

The Education of the Blind—

work, by supervising the production of manuscript books for free loan to *bona-fide* applicants and the consequent formation of the Students' Library.

This Library has been described as "almost unique amongst libraries for the blind." It is "a library of books which are unobtainable from other libraries." Its origin was in the War period, when many educated men lost their sight and had to be re-educated for new careers. Text-books on all subjects were necessary, and the Institute was asked to undertake their transliteration into Braille, there being no other national society in existence which had as an object the provision of special literature for blind students, and which could guarantee the production of such books in time for examination purposes. The Institute's Manuscript Department was then a small band of voluntary workers who transliterated into Braille books—generally novels—which were sent out to blind copyists, who were paid to duplicate them. This tiny staff began the training of further volunteers, and eventually the production of fiction ceased, all efforts being concentrated on educational works.

It is scarcely possible to realise how much invention is necessary to produce true copies of technical works, so that the Braille conveys to the blind student what print does to those who

can see. The Braille system, wonderfully efficient so far as light literature is concerned, needs much extension when study books are concerned. In 1919, for example, special codes had to be evolved for the transliteration of books in Old English, Middle English, Gothic, West Saxon, mediæval Latin and French. There were also many difficulties as to the arrangement of books; for tables of statistics, genealogical trees, etc.—so clear in print and easy to follow—cannot be transliterated into Braille in the same way. Much time has been expended in experiments, and now, through the help of voluntary workers—that untiring band of devoted men and women—a method has been standardised by which almost any tabular work, and even diagrams, can be represented satisfactorily in Braille.

It was eventually decided that all students should return their books after examinations were over, so that these works should be available for other students; in this way the Students' Library, at present including nearly 5,000 volumes, was formed.

This work, it should be noted, is strictly within the scope of the Education Committee's duties; the Students' Library exists not so much to provide blind readers with general information as to furnish immediate practical assistance to students and professional blind people.



Recreation Time at Chorley Wood College.

BOOKS AND MUSIC FOR THE BLIND

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE IS THE LARGEST PUBLISHING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND IN THE WORLD, AND THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE CONTROLS THIS BRANCH OF ITS WORK

THE duties of the Institute's Publications Committee (its members are named on page 4) are as follows :—

- (a) Selection of books, pamphlets, etc., to be reproduced in Braille, Moon and letterpress; such advice to include reference to number and size of volumes, size of editions, size of Braille characters, whether interlined or interpointed, grade of Braille, etc.
- (b) Selection of music to be reproduced in Braille and letterpress.
- (c) Supervision of periodicals, newspapers, etc., published by the Institute.
- (d) Selection of maps, diagrams, etc.
- (e) Revision of the catalogue of Braille and Moon literature.
- (f) Any other matter not included in the foregoing which may be referred to the Publications Committee by the Standing Committee or by the Publications Committee to the Standing Committee.

In carrying out these duties, the Committee is assisted by two Consultative Committees (see page 4), the members of which are representative of contemporary letters and music at their best.

The Committee's work since its formation may be conveniently summarised under seven headings :—

Braille production	Periodicals
Moon production	Catalogues
Prices	Music
Selection of Books.	

Braille Production

The Committee has had many problems to tackle relative to production. The production of embossed literature, mainly by blind labour, presents many difficulties. For instance, the production of stereotyped plates by blind stereotypers has to be adjusted to meet the slower printing and binding processes, principally carried out by sighted labour. In fact, at one time, book plates and music plates accumulated to such an extent that the printing and binding departments were faced with a very serious problem, as the daily output of current periodicals and reprints was then taxing all their resources.

Another problem is the adjustment of prices and size of books to demand—a problem affected by innumerable factors.

However, without dwelling on such difficulties, the cost of running the whole Publications Department at full pressure, so as to produce the maximum number of publications in the minimum amount of time, was ascertained, and eventually

the allocation of a specified sum per annum to meet the expense of such maximum production was obtained. The stereotyping, printing, binding and publishing departments of the Institute are now, accordingly, running at full strength and are producing a constant supply of Braille literature of all kinds.

Moon Production

This question is equally intricate. The most obvious difference between Moon and Braille production is the nature and extent of the demand. Readers of Moon are generally people who lose their sight in late adult life or old age, and there are more Moon readers in America than in England; these two facts govern the nature of the supply. The extent of the demand is difficult to estimate. If an edition of a classical work or of a popular novel is published in Braille, it is presumed that in no extended period the edition will be exhausted. But, while the economic factors governing the size of an edition of either a Braille or a Moon book are practically similar, the demand is assuredly not so; whereas a Braille edition is always in demand by the steadily-growing number of Braille readers, a Moon edition may linger until it becomes too venerable for sale, and tie up a deal of metal in much-needed space. So the limited edition was initiated. Certain works are now selected for possible publication in Moon type. These are widely advertised amongst Moon customers, and definite orders for each work are requested before that work is put in hand. As soon as the economic minimum of orders is received, each work is begun, the number of copies ordered printed, and the type distributed. This arrangement has had excellent results, many new works having been issued in Moon. The broad principle now adopted in Moon production is that works of a more ephemeral nature are printed from type which is afterwards distributed, while stereotyped plates are kept of books of a more classical nature.

Prices

The prices of embossed literature compared with those of ordinary literature appear to be abnormally high, but recent innovations have considerably lowered the cost of production. "Bring down prices" should be a mania with

Books and Music for the Blind—

any body or committee dealing with embossed publications, and, since its formation, the Institute's Publications Committee has constantly had this matter under consideration. "Standardisation" in many a factory has been the axe to lop off the mounting price, and "standardisation" is serving the blind reader well. Firstly, the cost of all Braille and Moon books published by the Institute was definitely fixed, and it is illuminating to compare it with the American cost price, for instance. Then a definite discount to home purchasers was allowed, namely, two-thirds the cost price, and, to render division easy, odd pence were eliminated. Finally, the discounts were extended to all purchasers of Braille or Moon books throughout the British Empire.

Periodicals

The Institute publishes ten periodicals (for full particulars, see page 12) in Braille and Moon, including two newspapers, all of which are prepared, edited, stereotyped and printed by the Institute, apart from other journals printed to order and over which the Publications Committee has no authority. The Committee has recognised from its first meeting that four principles should rule its policy with reference to periodical literature, namely, that prices should be brought down, scope extended, circulation pushed and contents kept up-to-date. It is the Committee's constant endeavour to put these principles into force.

Catalogues

One of the means by which the Committee has successfully solved many difficult problems has

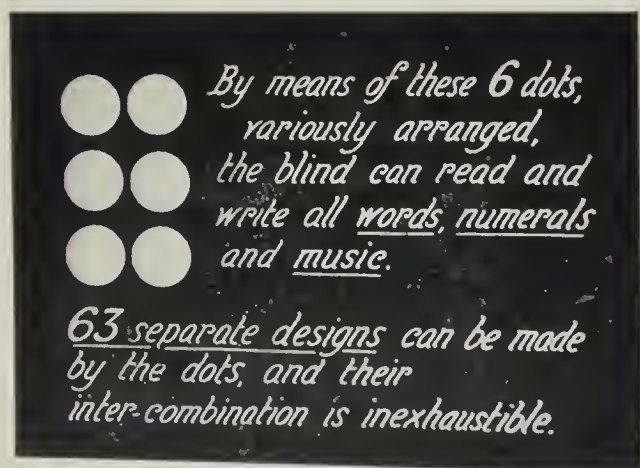
been the wide publicity given to new publications. Catalogues in embossed type are the best means of bringing the attention of the blind reader to new publications. The issue of a complete Music catalogue in sections is now completed. There is also a Braille catalogue of books in the Students' Library and of those in the Massage Library, and a catalogue of Moon books in Moon type will soon be supplemented with a catalogue of Braille books in Braille type. Finally, a supplement, printed in Braille and giving particulars of all new publications, of additions to the two special libraries named, and to the National Library for the Blind, together with particulars of new apparatus, new games, etc., is now given away each month with every periodical published by the Institute. The ink-print catalogue has also been improved by the introduction of cross-references to the fiction and poetry sections, and of brief descriptions of new works listed in the monthly supplementary catalogues.

Music

When the Committee was first formed, it was faced with a difficult problem which has already been briefly mentioned—that is, the accumulation of plates of works stereotyped but not printed and published. A great number of music plates especially awaited action. The position to-day is that not only have all the accumulated music plates been utilised, and the sheet music and volumes printed therefrom been published, but a regular number of new music publications is issued monthly, the selection being made by the special Music Sub-Committee in consultation with the Music Consultative Committee. The blind musician now has at his command a constant supply of the best music at a cheap price, and is provided with a complete Braille catalogue of all Braille music, while supplementary catalogues in Braille of additional items are issued with each number of the "Braille Musical Magazine."

The Selection of Books

The selection of books to be transliterated into Braille or Moon type is by no means an easy task. Faced with the formidable mass of the world's entire literary production, the judgment of any selector of the world's best books is liable to be so dazzled by the splendour of the array that, rather than blindly pick a volume from here and there, it relies upon three recognised guides:



The Basis of the Braille System.

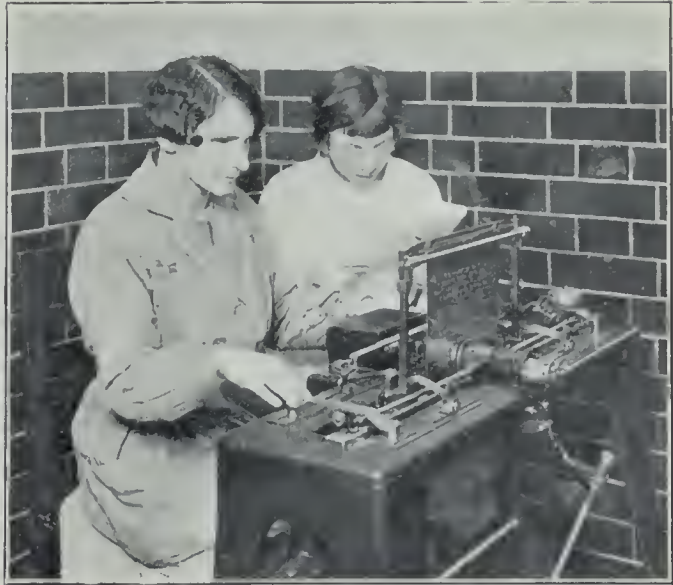
Books and Music for the Blind —

personal taste, the taste of the leading critics and *vox populi*. As far as *best* books are concerned, these three guides are useful to a point; but each has a favourite little pitfall of its own, into which it invariably seeks to entice a too fervid follower. Personal taste can never free itself entirely from the charm of association; the best of leading critics may reveal his humanity by an occasional touch of spiteful malignity; while the voice of the people is sometimes but an unholy echo of a strident publicity. Few readers have resisted the delicate pleasure of chuckling cynically over Somebody's Hundred Best Books.

So far, *best* books. But the blind are only human, and, being a world within a world, their taste is not always directed by superlatives. The Publications Committee considers that the blind should be provided with books of every type—not only classics that can be diffidently respected, but human documents that can be passionately loved. Otherwise, the alliance between a blind man and his books may be at best but a *mariage de convenance* liable to be torn asunder by the merest flicker of a flaunting novelette.

Yet there is no reason why the chosen representative of each type of book should not be the *most* representative, and therefore, comparatively speaking, a praiseworthy book. As the production of embossed literature is a costly business, it is most unlikely that Braille production will ever equal in extent even one per cent. of ink-print production. Some selection must therefore be made by somebody, and that body, as far as the Institute is concerned, is the Publications Committee composed of men and women, some of whom are blind themselves, and all of whom are in constant touch and understanding with the blind world.

Of course, blind people, being healthy and normal, always want more than they can get. They themselves will be the first to recognise the fact, and also that some of their needs in the way of literature are scarcely dictated by the most correct literary taste. Therefore, seeing that it is a financial impossibility to meet all needs, the Committee discards the less reputable, and endeavours to select books of all types which are in constant demand by the majority of blind readers,



A Blind Stereotyper at work on the new Model Stereotyping Machine. (See page 40).

but which, in addition, possess the greatest amount of literary distinction applicable to each respective type.

The Committee's selection is consequently not made haphazardly. Every book brought before the Committee is reported upon by someone who has read the book, and whenever doubtful points arise, advice is sought from literary experts or the distinguished men of letters serving on the Literature Consultative Committee. For instance, no one but a classical scholar can give a correct judgment as to the fidelity of a translation from Greek or Latin; no one but a practical scientist can choose between two technical works on a scientific subject; no one but a professional medical man can decide on the merits of a medical work.

The selection of general literature has less sure guides. Here lie the pitfalls mentioned above. But when men have been selecting books for years the danger of such pitfalls is minimised. The Committee is fortunately free from the natural desire of the publisher to make money; there are no axes to grind and no sensitive "littery gents" to conciliate; one member can afford to sacrifice his predilections before the voice of the many; letters from blind people all over the world afford useful guide-posts; and the views of critics can always be critically reviewed.

Books and Music for the Blind—



A Collection of Braille Books — the Massage Library at the National Institute.

Some of the Books Selected

A good idea of the various character of the books selected by the Publications Committee can be obtained from the following extract from an article recently written on the subject:—

“‘*Fabulae Heroicae*’ and ‘*Liviana*’—two Latin readers—an excellent beginning to any list of books, not perhaps exciting reading, but emphasising the service rendered to all culture by classic training. Then we jump 2,000 years, and have ‘*Georgian Stories, 1922*,’ and ‘*Best Short Stories of 1924*,’ followed by some typical favourites in fiction—‘*She*’ with its irresistible attraction to the eternally youthful; ‘*Prester John*,’ by John Buchan, one of the best living writers of adventure stories; ‘*The Broad Highway*,’ a good example of the modern sentimental picaresque; ‘*The Challenge to Sirius*,’ a brilliant example of the work of one of our greatest woman novelists. Then we have Stevenson’s fine story of the Southern Seas, ‘*The Ebb Tide*’; ‘*The Justice of the Duke*,’ by Sabatini, the foremost writer nowadays of the romantic-historical novel; and Harrison Ainsworth’s ‘*Guy Fawkes*,’ a good example of the same school when it filled the breach left vacant by the death of its great founder, Sir Walter Scott. Meredith and Henry James are represented by ‘*The Tale of Chloe*’ and ‘*The Lesson of the Master*’; Trollope by ‘*The Warden*’; Herman Melville by his wonderful sea epics of ‘*Typee*’ and ‘*Moby Dick*’; and

the great and magniloquent Dumas by ‘*Twenty Years After*.’ Tolstoy’s ‘*Kreutzer Sonata*,’ gives us something from Russia; Hémon’s ‘*Marie Chapdelaine*,’ brings us the latest intellectual offspring of that strange remnant of a past glory—French Canada.

“These do not exhaust all the items of fiction in one list alone, but they serve to show how wide and varied is the choice. Let us take the subsidiary list of books written quite recently on subjects of the day. We have Lord Grey’s ‘*Memoirs*,’ perhaps the most sincere and illuminating of the multitudinous war books; Ward Price’s popular account of the world tour of the Prince of Wales; Lowell’s ‘*With Lawrence in Arabia*,’ revealing one of the most remarkable personalities of the Great War.

“In the list under review there happens to be a preponderance of fiction, but literary criticism is represented by Quiller Couch’s ‘*Studies of Charles Dickens and Other Eminent Victorians*’; fantasy by George Macdonald’s ‘*The Princess and the Goblin*’; drama by Congreve’s ‘*The Way of the World*’; economics by Cannan’s ‘*Wealth*.’ An interesting item is an addition to what are termed Vocational Works—‘*The Blind in Industry*,’ by Ben Purse.

“The Committee’s next list concentrates far more on classics. ‘*Selected Plutarch’s Lives*,’ from the wonderfully vivid and breezy translation made by that typical Elizabethan, Sir

Books and Music for the Blind—

Thomas North—a man who, himself worthy of a Plutarch, armed as the Armada came up the Channel—and ‘Selected Voyages of Hakluyt’ are two items which must thrill any genuine lover of golden books undimmed by age’s dust. And perhaps it is as well to mention here that the term ‘Selected’ does not in any sense imply expurgation. The blind reader whole-heartedly abhors Bowdler and all his works, and the Committee makes no attempt to ‘edit’ a book. A book, once chosen, is given in its entirety, save perhaps for the occasional omission or alteration of a reference to the index or of an illustration not possible of reproduction in Braille.

“‘Dialogues of Plato,’ ‘Moral Discourses of Epictetus,’ Sir Thomas More’s ‘Utopia,’ show a catholic taste; and two modern thinkers, J. B. Bury and Maeterlinck, provide two items—a ‘History of the Freedom of Thought’ and ‘Wisdom and Destiny.’

“In this and succeeding lists poetry is well represented by Milton’s ‘Paradise Lost,’ selected poems of Rupert Brooke, Spenser’s ‘Epithalamion,’ Christina Rossetti’s ‘Goblin Market,’ and poems by John Freeman, Robert Bridges, Edward Thomas, Andrew Lang, Edmund Gosse, Mrs. Meynell, Andrew Marvell and Walter de la Mare.

“Educational works include ‘Human Geography,’ a revised English Grammar, ‘Extracts from French Composition,’ ‘French Unseens,’ and books on précis-writing and phonetics.

“Here are some historical gems: Defoe’s ‘Memoirs of a Cavalier,’ Parkman’s thrilling account of the early Jesuit missions in Canada, Breasted’s ‘Conquest of Civilisation’; followed by some further books of the day: Baldwin’s ‘On England,’ Dean Inge’s ‘Outspoken Essays,’ Dr. Barry’s ‘Memoirs and Opinions.’ And, by no means abashed in such grave company, some really excellent thrillers—‘The Cask,’ ‘The Murder of Roger Ackroyd,’ ‘The Green Archer,’ ‘The Stolen Budget,’ ‘The Red House Mystery,’ etc.—these providing the blind with food for that ‘love of the unusual which makes so many strangers kin.’”

The list of books chosen by the Publications Committee also includes Braille instructional books, handbooks for teachers, books in graded Braille, etc.

It is interesting to note that in the case of every book transliterated into Braille by the Institute since the inauguration of its publishing department, the author and the publisher have granted permission to reproduce each work entirely free of all charge or right to royalty.

The work of the Publications Committee is, without doubt, difficult and onerous; but most blind readers will agree that it is endeavouring to carry it out in a manner calculated not only to be of great present value, but of inestimable future benefit to the blind world.



Loading a Royal Mail Van with Bags of Braille Literature for Despatch all over the World.

TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH WORK

THIS ACTIVITY OF THE INSTITUTE WILL SURELY AFFECT FAVOUR-
ABLY THE FUTURE WELFARE OF THE BLIND GENERALLY

THE Technical and Research Committee is composed of many distinguished experts in the scientific world (see page 4), and its duties are to examine and report upon (a) existing and new methods of producing Braille and Moon literature; (b) new or existing apparatus for the use or benefit of the blind; (c) museums for the blind, including apparatus for the same; (d) occupations for the blind; (e) any inventions or ideas which may be utilised by or for the benefit of the blind.

The principal matters dealt with during the past year are:—

- Remodelling of Braille Stereotyping Machines.
- Production of Limited Editions of Braille books.
- Games for the Blind.
- Psycho-physiology of the Blind.
- Embossed Maps.
- Measures.
- Speaking Films; Gramophone Records.
- Miscellaneous Inventions.

Remodelling of Braille Stereotyping Machines

The stereotyping machines which have been used at the Institute for many years are manipulated by the hands and feet of the blind operator. The hands work the keys, while the feet provide the necessary power. The Committee has long recognised the desirability of eliminating the foot-power arrangement, as not only is the operation of these machines likely to be fatiguing to the operator (with the result that the dots produced are not uniform in distinctness), but there is no doubt that the simultaneous movement of the fingers and feet distract concentration on accuracy. Accordingly, a new model, of which the design was entrusted to a leading firm of engineers, has been evolved, in which compressed air is used as the motive power. The machine is operated by means of the pressure of the wrists as the hands work the keyboard. Twelve foot-power machines at the Institute are now being converted into the new type of machine, and there is every promise that

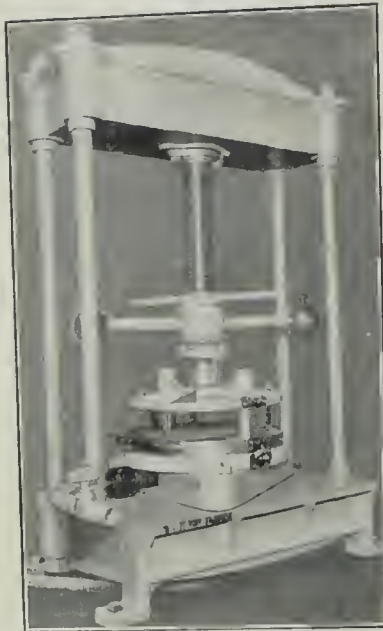
both work and worker will be materially benefited when the installation is completed.

Production of Limited Editions of Braille Books

Braille by its bulk and the costliness of its production bars easy and cheap access to the omnivorous desires of a real reader, and one of the most insistent and understandable of a blind man's complaints against the limitations of Braille is that, by force of economic factors, it must cater rather for the general reader than for the specialist. Generally speaking, it has been found impracticable to produce mechanically an edition of less than 50 copies of a single work. Yet there are many works which a blind individual would like to possess, but which would not find a ready market amongst the general blind public. All agree that a blind specialist in literature of any type is a person who, for the general good of the blind community, should be fostered. Therefore, it has long been recognised that the publication of certain works in editions limited according to the presumable number of purchasers would be very welcome to the progressive blind, as to pro-

duce by hand even three or four separate manuscript copies of such works is a long and tedious business. In order to make the wish father to the fact very great difficulties have had to be encountered; but now steady and painstaking work on these lines is at last to be crowned by what at the moment appears to be success.

A machine has been completed and has been named a "Braille Reproducer." It has been designed so that it may work in conjunction with a Braille writer; the paper sheets from the writer, when inserted in the machine, act as selectors, allowing small plungers to rise, by means of compressed air. As there are nearly 4,000



The New "Braille Reproducer."

Technical and Research Work—

plungers, it can readily be understood that skilful and delicate workmanship was required in the construction of the machine.

Supposing, say, one wishes to produce half a dozen Braille copies of Dryden's "All for Love, or the World Well Lost," a work not likely to be in demand by other than students of dramatic literature. A Braille MS. copy of the play will first be made on a Braille writer. Then, sheet by sheet, the original copy will be inserted in the new machine, and as many copies as required obtained of each sheet. Thus, if the original Braille copy is retained, it should always be possible to obtain further copies. The machine works by compressed air, and practically the only cost of production, apart from capital expenditure, is the wage of the operator. At the moment, however, it must be borne in mind that the machine is not yet quite free from the experimental stage.

The standard Stainsby-Wayne Writer was found to be not sufficiently accurate to produce the master sheets, which have to register, dot for dot, with the selector plate on the machine; so a specially accurate writer had to be designed. This machine is now being manufactured. Not only is it hoped that the new model will write the master sheet for the reproducer, but also, if successful, supplant the present model, as it has two great advantages over the latter, namely, upward writing and perfect registration.

Games for the Blind

Games for the blind have an importance which the strict utilitarian may not realise. But strict utilitarians are proverbially apt to break their heads against the walls of their own construction,

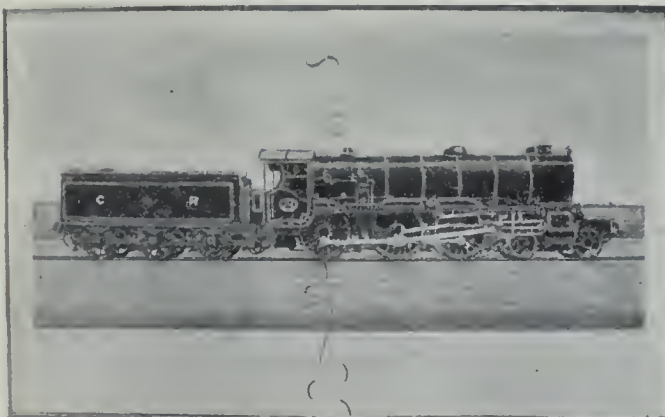


New Jig-Saw Puzzle for the Blind.

and it can be concluded that most people will agree that the provision of amusement for blind people equals in importance the provision of labour. So far, the games most played by the blind are card and board games. To these, adaptations of jig-saw puzzles, cross-word puzzles, nine men's morris, and anchor stone puzzles have been recently added. The possibilities of more active games for the blind have been increased by the invention of a ball containing a reed which when compressed by contact with the hand or foot emits enough complaint to indicate its position to the striker. A card score-board has also been completed, and is now on sale.

Psycho-Physiology of the Blind

This subject is one of far too wide a scope to be dealt with in a paragraph. It is engaging the special attention of experts on the Committee, and at a recent meeting, Mr. R. J. Bartlett, lecturer in psychology, King's College, London, gave a very interesting report on the investigations he is conducting at the Barclay Workshop, following his examination of the various sensations experienced by blind individuals. He explained that vibrations on the skin caused the subject to get an experience and to distinguish sounds. By this means it was possible, he said, to interpret sentences; new words which are unfamiliar were understood by means of the context. The maximum rapidity with which the skin could detect changes of vibration was 1/2,000th of a second.



Another Example of a Jig-Saw Puzzle for the Blind.

Technical and Research Work—

After an interesting discussion it was considered that although light could quite easily be transformed to sound it would be better to transmute light to touch, as it was important not to overload the hearing organs. Experiments in the first case, however, would have to be from light to sound, and from these results it would be possible to determine whether an instrument could be devised to convert sound to touch at a commercial figure, the instrument acting as an artificial eye.

Embossed Maps

A new process of making embossed maps has been approved. In order that these maps should not be overloaded with detail, it is proposed to issue two maps for each country, one including mountains and rivers, the other rivers and towns. The first maps published will be those of the British Isles, to be followed by maps of other countries in different parts of the world. The new maps will, of course, be invaluable to schools for the blind.

Measures

A recent addition to measures graduated in Braille for the use of blind people is a thermometer furnished with a dial divided by embossed dots into degrees similar to a Braille watch, so that the fingers can tell the movement of the needle. Owing to the expense of manufacture, these thermometers are only made to order.

Particulars of dry and liquid measures, and of a new and

cheaper tape measure, are now obtainable from the Institute.

Speaking Films ; Gramophone Records

Experiments are constantly being made with films and gramophones in order to find the Philosopher's Stone of the blind world—a practical means of reading ordinary ink-print or of acoustic reproduction. So far, little result has been obtained, as the difficulties of combining cheapness with efficiency in the evolution of a practical method are enormous. However, there is no actual scientific negation of possibilities in this direction, and each experiment made may be the Newton's apple of a new discovery.

Miscellaneous Inventions

Many inventions are submitted each month to the Committee. Although most of these prove

impracticable — for instance, all those connected with the Morse code—the fact that they are submitted is a happy sign that the blind are setting their brains to work in the right direction, and that the existence of this special Committee is becoming more and more widely known.

The above details, although necessarily fragmentary, serve to show all those interested in the present and future welfare of the blind that, in the Technical and Research Committee of the National Institute, the blind possess a factor towards progress of singular and increasing value.



Embossed Map of England and Wales.

Placing the Blind in World Industries

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE PROGRESS OF THE BLIND WORKER IN
FACTORIES USUALLY EMPLOYING ONLY WORKERS WITH EYESIGHT

IT is not so very long ago that in this country the possibilities of employing the blind in industry appeared to be confined within the limits of such elementary handicrafts as basket and mat making. Not only the great leaders of industrial undertakings but those who were more intimate with the blind and definitely concerned with promoting their welfare seemed to insist on a finite boundary to a blind worker's progress.

It was rather a pitiable attitude in a progressive age, and, like many other dogmatisms, it was finally swept away in the avalanche of the Great War. Then youth paid its great sacrifice, and hundreds of vigorous young men had to learn to conquer blindness. Immediately, the blind came to the fore of the public imagination, and there was a search for new occupations and professions. World-wide interest was kindled, and fortunately it has been kept alight by the magnificent courage and optimism of the blind themselves. It is no exaggeration to say that blind people in these days will readily grasp every opportunity that is offered to them, and it is because of this rich receptive soil that all ideas for the further amelioration of the blind so quickly take root.

An Appointments Board.

One such idea that is meeting with considerable success is that of "placing" the blind worker in factories employing, in the ordinary course of events, only sighted labour; in other words, finding occupations for the blind outside those commonly practised in Institutions and Workshops for the Blind. Such "placing" is termed "Placement Work," and to further it in every way possible the National Institute has recently formed an Appointments Board consisting of Capt. Sir

Beachcroft Towse, V.C., K.C.V.O., C.B.E. (Chairman), Mr. G. Brown (Worcester College for the Blind), Mr. G. M. Campbell (Royal Normal College for the Blind), Mr. H. J. Clarke (Director, Selfridge & Co.), Sir R. Waley Cohen, K.B.E. (Director of Shell-Mex), Sir J. Devonshire, K.B.E. (Director Underground Electric Rlys.), Dr. A. Eichholz (Board of Education), Miss M. Garaway (L.C.C. School for the Blind), Mr. A. R. Knight (National Institute of Industrial Psychology), Mr. F. R. Lovett (Ministry of Health), Mr. W. R. Morris, Mr. G. F. Mowatt, J.P. (National Institute), Sir Philip Nash, K.C.M.G., C.B. (Chairman, Metropolitan Vickers), Mr. R. Pears (Chairman, Pears' Soap Works), Rt. Hon. G. H. Roberts, P.C., J.P., Mr. P. Rooksby (Staff Manager, Harrod's), Sir Sidney Skinner, J.P. (Chairman, Barker's), Mr. H. J. Wagg, O.B.E. (National Institute), Mr. A. E. Wood and the Deputy Master and Controller of the Royal Mint. The names alone of the members of this Board serve to show the importance attached to this activity of the Institute, and it must cause satisfaction to know that the pioneer work undertaken in other countries is now bearing fruit in England.

Pioneer Work Abroad.

America did not need the stimulus of the War. As far back as 1910, American organisations for the blind—faced (as English organisations have been faced) with the knowledge that the employment of the blind in special workshops is exceedingly uneconomical—endeavoured to solve the problem of economically employing the blind by turning their attention to the possibilities of "placing" blind people amongst workers with sight in all types of factories requiring hand labour not necessarily depen-



A Blind Man ringing Coins at the Royal Mint.

Placing the Blind in World Industries—

dent on eyesight. In Germany also much experimental work of the same nature had been begun, and this was considerably utilised when, in 1915, the Disablement Law required every employer of labour to absorb in their factories at least 2 per cent. of disabled people. A correspondent, writing of the Siemens-Schukert-Werke, says: "In the centre of this citadel of industry, men have found a home whose lives only a few years ago were regarded as hopeless. These men who, in the World War, lost their sight, now sit at machines of all descriptions like able-bodied men, and perform fully-paid work." Blind civilians were also engaged, and Direktor Perls of this company took great personal interest in the whole question. At first, he gave the blind workers such light work as pasting, packing, etc., but to enable them to work on machines, he equipped machines with safety devices, himself experimented blindfold with all such re-arrangements, and as a result is now able to employ well over 100 blind people, while more than double that number are being trained. Apparently they are most satisfactory workers; it is stated that they do even more work than those with eyesight as they are not subjected to any distractions, that they practise about 100 different processes, and that it is possible for a man to look after two or even three automatic machines. Making allowance for all the pardonable exaggeration of enthusiasm, there is sufficient evidence to show that the average earning power of the blind operative in the Siemens-Schukert-Werke



Blind Worker assembling Parts of Electric Motors for Messrs. Metropolitan Vickers, at Henshaw's Institution for the Blind, Manchester.

is about 80 per cent. of that of the man with eyesight—a figure considerably in excess of the earning power of the blind in workshops for the blind in this country.

In France about 90 blind persons are employed in the engineering trade, and their wages are about 85 per cent. of those earned by the worker with eyesight in the same branch of industry.

At the present time in America, the Ford Motor Co., Detroit, employ a number of physically defective people. At the Highland Park Factories there are 44 blind men who, in some instances, it is stated, do their jobs more thoroughly than their sighted colleagues. Special jobs are not made for them; they are simply given the work for which they appear to be most competent. The wage basis for blind and sighted is the same, a minimum of 6 dollars per day, and the blind are considered 100 per cent. efficient.



Toy Assembling by Blind Workers at Messrs. A. Wells & Co., Progress Works, Walthamstow.

The tasks most often assigned to, and the most easily accomplished by, the blind in these factories, are cutting paper, calculating and packing various small pieces of mechanism, the collection of screws, nuts, bolts and such like articles, and assisting sighted men to gather up and make ready certain tools and materials, etc. Their work as a whole is entirely satisfactory from the employer's point of view, and the men, without exception, are happy in their surroundings and content with the arrangements made for their welfare.

Placing the Blind in World Industries—



Blind Girl engaged in Photographic Envelope Folding at Messrs. Kodaks.

"Placement Work" in England.

For the purpose of examining the results of the activities of the National Institute in this direction in England and Wales, the term "Placement Work" includes all occupations not ranking as grant-earning services.

The first work of this nature undertaken by the Institute was the training of blind persons in Massage, Medical Gymnastics and Medical Electricity. Of the number trained at, or under the auspices of, the Institute since 1915, approximately 80 per cent. are now engaged in the profession of massage, are self-supporting, and, for the most part, are earning fees and salaries considerably in excess of blind workers employed in institutions. They are practising all over the country, and their names and addresses can be obtained from the Secretary of the Massage Department of the Institute.

Telephony as an employment for the blind has always received much attention from the Institute, but it is probable that owing to the installation of the automatic system, this sphere of employment will be considerably reduced in future. About 72 blind people are engaged as telephonists throughout England and Wales, and their average wage is £2 8s. 3d. per week. This, although below the regulation rate, compares favourably with the wages of blind employees in institutions.

Some Interesting Developments

The most recent developments of "Placement Work" are very interesting, and should inspire the Institute's

Appointments Board with great hopes for the future.

Messrs. Cadbury's, Bournville, employ five blind girls on their labelling machines, and it is stated that they have attained 100 per cent. proficiency. They were recently earning from 52s. to 60s. per week.

Messrs. Fry's, Bristol, employ three blind girls on the following operations :

1. Foiling (*i.e.*, wrapping chocolates in tinfoil).
2. Straight line packing (*i.e.*, packing one type of chocolate, such as bars, etc., in boxes).
3. Finished box packing in cardboard cases and stringing.

Messrs. Kodak, Wealdstone, Middlesex, employ one blind girl on photographic envelope folding.

Messrs. Metropolitan Vickers Electric Co., Ltd., Trafford Park, Manchester, employ three blind women on sub-contracts with Henshaw's Institution for the Blind, and the women are making from 20s. to 25s. per week. At present, their work is serewing nuts on stems.

Messrs. Pears', Soap Manufacturers, Isleworth, are employing one blind girl. From the very first week of her engagement her economic earnings have exceeded 30s. per week, and she now never leaves the factory with less than 35s. economic earnings per week. Her work is folding cardboard boxes.

The Royal Mint employs one blind man in "ringing" coins. All gold and silver coins, except 6d. and 3d. bits, are "rung" prior to issue. A heavy metal disc is used for this purpose, and the coins are allowed to impinge on this in



Blind Girls Sweet Wrapping at Messrs. Pascall's, London.

Placing the Blind in World Industries—

rapid succession, a faulty coin being recognised by a dull as against a metallic sound. This man began work with a wage of £2 12s. 6d. per week which has, in accordance with the sliding scale, since been increased.

Messrs. James Pascall's, Blackfriars, employ two blind girls on wrapping and foiling sweets.

Messrs. Wells & Co., Walthamstow, employ six blind girls on metal toy assembling; this experiment, in the first place, is being financed by the Institute. If it is successful, it may be the means of absorbing a considerable proportion of female labour.

The urgent problem of finding suitable employment for blind people who have received higher education is also to be considered by the Appointments Board.

The Sympathy of Employers.

The above results, although they may not be impressive as to number, are certainly so as to nature. Each of those blind men and women, labouring at unaccustomed work amongst strange surroundings, is blazing a trail through darkness to light

for the benefit of their blind fellows. Enough cannot be said in praise of their courage and industry, but it must not be forgotten that they would still be awaiting a chance to show their spirit and talents had not opportunities been afforded by the sympathy and vision of employers of labour. The number of those employers who have readily acquiesced in experiments being made with blind labour is yet few, but the fact that their sympathy with "Placement Work" for the blind has not resulted in an economic loss should weigh considerably with other employers, and add largely to the number of those industries open in the future to blind operatives. An escape has been made from the century-old rut, and the prospects of the blind are not now entirely confined to augmentation grants; the proficiency figures quoted are ample evidence of that. But interest, sympathy and patience are needed, and the more these qualities are evinced by employers of labour when approached on the question of "Placement Work" for the blind the greater will be the volume of light which no single one of them would willingly refuse to pour into the world of darkness.



A Blind girl folding Cardboard Boxes at Messrs. A & F. Pears, Isleworth.

Homes and Hostels for the Blind

A LITTLE INSIGHT INTO THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT OF A GROUP OF SCATTERED HOMES

THE work of the Institute's Homes Committee (see page 4) covers a very wide field, as blind babies, the adult blind and the aged blind all come within its scope.

As its name implies, the Committee controls the various Homes administered and, with one exception, established, by the Institute, namely, the Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies at Chorley Wood, Southport and Leamington Spa; the Homes for Blind Women at Brighton and Clifton; the Guest House for Gentlewomen in reduced circumstances at Hoole Bank, Chester; the Convalescent and Holiday Home at St. Leonards-on-Sea, and the Hostels for Blind Women in London. These Homes are described on pages 18-21, but it will be of interest to give readers a little insight into the central management of a group of scattered Homes, chiefly as illustrating the national outlook in philanthropic work, but, additionally, as illustrating the care and pains which are taken in dealing with blind individuals. This latter point is emphasised because of the general though mistaken idea that in rational work the individual is frequently swamped in the group.

The Committee's Main Duty

Naturally, the main duty of the Homes Committee is to control and administer the Homes in such a fashion as to obtain a maximum result at a minimum expenditure. It sounds easy and it sounds trite, but it is nevertheless just such a duty which has occupied all governing bodies since the beginning of social work—sometimes with complete failure, at others with partial success, but never with complete success. We

refer, of course, to progressive work, that is the only truly living work, in which success to any degree always proportionately impels vision and for ever renders elusive a "maximum result."

It may be concluded, therefore, that the work of the Homes Committee is not bounded by the number and extent of the present Homes. Such questions as whether an existing Home can be more economically managed if extended with wider service, or whether the need of additional service warrants a new departure, or whether the type of work carried on at one Home can be more usefully supplemented by changing the character of the work undertaken at another Home, have to be considered in all their remotest details by the Committee. And without a doubt such continuous investigation and judicious probing of a subject must always keep the specific knowledge up-to-date, and necessarily lead to a wider vision and a more accomplished judgment. Therein lies the true benefit of national work, from the

points of view of both economy and utility. There is no concealment in a valley, no compression within a boundary. The highest peaks provide the only possible aspect, and from the highest peaks the object under investigation is not a town but a province, not a province but a country, not individuals but a community. Yet the observation should be so keen, that not one person goes unobserved, and not one passes by unrelieved. That, at any rate, is the ideal, and the Institute has always cherished ideals.



Like other children, Blind Babies enjoy nothing better than a romp in the Garden (Sunshine House, Leamington Spa).

Periodical Visits

The administration of the Homes entails a

Homes and Hostels for the Blind—

great deal of work. In the first place, each Home should be as familiar to each member of the Committee as his or her home; periodical visits must therefore be made—visits not merely of inspection but of inspiration, visits not merely to criticise but to praise.

All Matrons and Matrons' Assistants must be appointed by the Committee, and all other appointments of officers and domestics must be approved by it. Such appointments as Honorary Medical Officers, Dentists, Architects, etc., all have to be considered or arranged for and approved.

Individual Cases

But apart from, and more important than, the many administrative duties is the examination of individual cases. In this work, judgment and tact must be exercised. Blind individuals are as variable in nature as individuals with eyesight, and there are as many points to be considered in dealing with the upbringing, care and welfare of blind people as in dealing with sighted people. Such work indeed is infinitely difficult, as the training and welfare facilities available for the blind are as nothing compared with those available for the general public. In fact, it is only of recent years that the blind have emerged from that throttling attitude which persisted in regarding them as an abnormal class with an even and unchanging strain of abnormality, incapable of distinct personality and individual growth.

All applications for permanent or temporary admission to the Homes are naturally considered by the Committee. But its work on each case

does not end there. Its members take an active interest in all cases *in* the Homes apart from those outside, and also consider as one of their duties the creation of local interest in all such cases. There is nothing which so differentiates a Home from an institution as the warmth of a pet name in place of the frigidity of a ward number.

Blind Babies

In connection with the Blind Babies' Homes, all babies are examined by approved consultants prior to admission, and arrangements are made for the transfer of babies on attaining the requisite age or standard of education to certified schools for the blind. As a rule, no normal blind baby leaves the Homes until a vacancy in such schools has been secured, and in nearly all cases a direct transfer is made. Records of the history of every child, from the time of admission until the time of discharge, are kept, and a copy of the complete record is passed on to the child's new school. Such records include those of the Matron, the Medical Officer, the Ophthalmic Surgeon, the Dentist and the Head Teacher.

These few details suffice to show the great care taken by the Homes Committee to fulfil efficiently its two duties, namely, to see that the Institute's Homes are administered in a wide and

liberal manner, so that they may benefit the blind nationally; and, at the same time, to do its best to better the lot of every individual resident at any time in the Homes.



Blind Residents in the Music Room at the Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Helping the Blind Home Worker

THE HOME INDUSTRIES COMMITTEE CONTROLS A SCHEME WHICH
ASSISTS BLIND HOME WORKERS TO MAKE AND MARKET GOODS

THE Institute's Home Industries Committee (see page 4) is concerned with the welfare of blind home workers resident in the Metropolitan district south of the Thames and in the Counties of Kent, Surrey, Sussex and Hampshire.

Although, strictly speaking, the Institute's Home Workers' Scheme is not a national undertaking (the area of its operation being limited), it is, nevertheless, the largest scheme of its kind in the country, and has met with really remarkable success since its initiation (at the suggestion of the Ministry of Health) about five years ago.

Difficulties of the Blind Worker

Perhaps the main reason for this immediate success was the urgent necessity for such a scheme before it was begun. Here was a mass of blind labour, able and willing to do its best to attain independence by useful and marketable work, yet unable, by force of circumstances, to get beyond this will and ability to work. Imagine yourself for a moment to be a blind man in some little country village nestled in a remote part of the Downs. There is perhaps a workshop for the blind some half-a-dozen miles away, but it is full; and, even should a vacancy occur, how on earth can you, day after day, tramp those six dreary miles all by yourself? You have perhaps tried to move into the town, within reasonable distance of the workshop, but you have not yet been able to find a suitable lodging, and you know for certain that the old villager who has become so used to your ways and looks after you so well would think the world about to end if she were asked to leave her country cottage. By constant practice and real hard work you know that you can turn out a pretty good basket, but you are rather dubious as to whether it is in the latest taste; and, what with the difficulty of obtaining the raw material cheaply and paying a middleman commission to sell your baskets, you begin to wonder whether the pile of mediocre products you are gradually accumulating will ever be sold in a world that wants everything up-to-date and cheap. What about mats, then? Your fingers feel they could do something in that way, and you have some new notions—but no, the difficulties are too great, and your busy fingers become listless or wander aimlessly over a Braille page extolling patience under adverse circumstances.

Now this was the position of many a blind man or woman in rural districts before the initiation

of the various Home Workers' Schemes. So that when the Institute's Scheme was introduced, it found awaiting it an eager expectancy—for the blind are ever hopeful—and it was met half way in its desire to aid by the desire to benefit by its aid.

Thus, the blind man who wished to work, though perforce tied to his home, became the blind home worker. Here at his elbow was the key to all his difficulties. Here was an organisation that would banish that ever-renewed but vain attempt to get a place in a distant factory; that would provide for him all the raw material he needed at cost price; that would give him any instruction in workmanship which he needed; that would keep him *au fait* with the latest designs; that would watch the markets for him; that would eliminate the expense of a middleman; that would pay him promptly on sale of goods and help him in innumerable ways.

In brief, the blind home worker had found something which would help him to help himself, and that is the assistance which the normal blind person appreciates more than oceans of pity and seas of sickly sympathy.

Scope of the Scheme

There are at present one hundred and eighty-four blind men and women who come within the scope of the Institute's Home Workers' Scheme. From Margate to Christchurch, from London to Brighton—no matter where in that wide rural area a blind home worker resides, he or she is now linked to progress, a necessary part in a business-like proposition.

Let us turn for a moment from the difficulties of the blind home worker to the difficulties confronting the Institute when they accepted responsibility for the scheme. It had to get into touch with the workers in districts far apart; it had to establish a trading centre, provide storage accommodation and get into touch with suppliers of raw material; it had to survey the quality of the work being turned out by home workers, and, in view of the long neglect of them, it is not astonishing to find that that work was very often of a poor quality—practically useless as a marketable commodity. It was found that many workers had been taught trades unsuitable to their special ability or unsuited to their locality; practically all were out of touch with possible purchasers;

Helping the Blind Home Worker—

nowhere did there exist any kind of sales organisation.

So the Committee digested all available data and set to work to find remedies. First and foremost, goods manufactured for sale must be saleable goods—goods that could compete with those offered for sale in local shops—goods that were solidly made and attractively designed. So travelling instructors were appointed, people who could improve the standard of basketry and knitting and discipline production.

Then adequate storage accommodation was acquired, not in London—a bad centre for the district embraced by the scheme—but at Redhill, Surrey, where the rural districts lie open to rapid transit. Now raw materials could be bought in bulk, and, as a consequence, down went the price to the blind.

Marketing Goods

But how to market? Should the Institute supply goods to the wholesalers, or retail them itself? Always bearing the blind worker in the fore of its deliberations, the Committee decided on the latter course, as, without a doubt, if you sell direct you get a bigger profit. So local sales of work and exhibitions were organised and up-to-date propaganda circulated; the goodwill of local residents was sought for and obtained; and sales proportionately increased. But the home worker was really working now; the more he was encouraged, the more he worked—a most healthy sign—and the greater became the need for other selling methods. Accordingly, a motor van was purchased, and fitted with a specially-designed body; and to-day it is a familiar sight along the country roads, bringing the product of able workmanship and admirable courage to those who show their sympathy with good work and a fine spirit behind it by buying the handiwork of the blind. And what is the result of all these progressive efforts? A turnover which last year

reached the sum of £10,000. No other proof is needed; the blind home worker has found a market.

Then it was felt that the work of the Committee could be suitably extended by embracing the blind in workshops situated in the areas the scheme covers. As a result of this new activity, last year orders to the value of £3,352 were placed with these workshops.

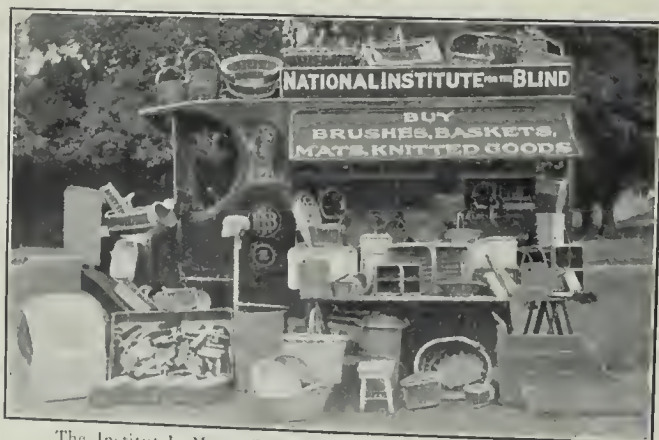
Yet the blind are always blind, and blindness is always a handicap. It is impossible, whatever the quality of his work, for a blind man to equal the output of a sighted worker; consequently, his wages must always be less. In 1923, the Committee, therefore, emphasised to local authorities the urgent necessity of augmenting wages. Grants were obtained, and during the last three years the sum of £6,300 has been administered on behalf of local authorities by the Committee in augmentation grants.

As the scheme developed it became evident that some means of assisting home workers during times of sickness were required. A sick club was accordingly formed by opening a lodge of the Church Benefit Society, and the Committee agreed to meet two-thirds of the members' contributions.

In order to secure close co-operation between local authorities, county associations for the blind, and the Institute, the Committee also established an Advisory Committee, which meets periodically and discusses matters affecting the welfare of home workers.

Finally, it should be mentioned that the Committee is strongly of the opinion that satisfactory work can only be produced by home workers if

their working conditions are satisfactory and the very best tools and appliances are provided for their use. Considerable attention has therefore been given to this section of the scheme, and the amount expended in the provision of equipment since the scheme was introduced exceeds £1,200.



The Institute's Motor Travelling Van, specially designed to display Goods made by Blind Home Workers.

STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNT

For the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(These Accounts are presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health or the Board of Education)

National Institute for the Blind :

BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL CHARITY FUND
MASSAGE
PUBLICATIONS AND APPARATUS
HOME INDUSTRIES
HOMES FOR BLIND BABIES
CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE, RESIDENTIAL CLUB AND OTHER HOMES
WIRELESS EQUIPMENT FUND FOR THE BLIND
EX-SERVICE MEN'S FUND
ARMITAGE MEMORIAL FUND
ARMITAGE FUND FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF BLIND WRITERS
LEEDS EMBOSSED BOOKS FUND
BAILEY BEQUEST
SALOMONS BEQUEST

Greater London Fund :

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Clifton Home for Blind Women, Bristol :

BALANCE SHEET
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Home Teaching Society for the Blind :

BALANCE SHEET
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Moon Society :

BALANCE SHEET
GENERAL CHARITY FUND
PUBLICATIONS

LIST OF INVESTMENTS

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET

BALANCE SHEET, GENERAL ACCOUNT

31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Leeds Embossed Books Fund—												
Cash in hand, 31st March, 1926 ..	132	7	3									
Add Balance from Separate Account ..	5	6	1									
				137	13	4						
Wireless Equipment Fund—												
Balance, 31st March, 1926 ..	3	8	3									
Transferred to Separate Account ..	3	8	3									
Sundry Creditors and Credit Balances—												
General Account ..	4,831	0	9									
Blind Babies' Fund ..	251	10	3									
				5,082	11	0						
Capital Accounts for General Purposes—												
General Account—												
Balance at 31st March, 1926 ..	46,919	17	2									
Transfer from Accumulated Funds ..	1,562	13	5									
				48,482	10	7						
By Cash at Bank and in Hand—												
General Account ..												
Blind Babies' Fund ..												
Cash on Deposit—												
Ex-Service Men's Fund ..												
Leeds Embossed Books Fund ..												
Investments for General Purposes—												
General Account—												
Freehold Houses—												
Balance at 31st March, 1926 ..	19,597	6	0									
Additions ..	2,516	0	0									
				22,113	6	0						
Less Written off ..				980	13	4						
Leasehold Houses—												
Balance at 31st March, 1926 ..	1,338	5	6									
Additions ..	967	3	4									
				2,305	8	10						
Less Written off ..	345	18	4									
Collecting Machines—												
Balance at 31st March, 1926 ..	1,531	14	6									
Additions ..	273	18	5									
				1,805	12	11						
Less Depreciation ..	867	16	8									
Investments (see page 74)												
Blind Babies' Fund—												
Balance at 31st March, 1926 ..	5,273	8	2									
Less Transfer to Capital Account for Investments Specifically Appropriated ..	2,105	13	2									
				3,167	15	0						
Carried forward												
				56,870	9	11						

	Brought forward	£	s.	d.	f.	s.	d.
Ex-Service Men's Fund							
Balance at 31st March, 1926	..	2,500	0	0			
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	..	2,500	0	0			
						56,870	9 11
Chorley Wood College							
Balance at 31st March, 1926	..	750	0	0			
Part proceeds of Bazaar, 1927	..	250	0	0			
						5,000	0 0
Capital Accounts for Investments Specifically Appropriated							
General Account	..					1,000	0 0
						21,035	4 7
Blind Babies' Fund							
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	..	5,492	18	0			
Transfer from Capital Account for General Purposes	..	2,105	13	2			
Capital Accounts for Endowments							
General Account	..					7,598	11 2
Balance at 31st March, 1926	..	16,872	11	11			
Donations	..	520	0	0			
						17,392	11 11
Blind Babies' Fund							
Balance at 31st March, 1926	..	2,739	6	3			
Donation	..	105	0	0			
						2,844	6 3
Ex-Service Men's Fund							
	..					500	0 0
Chorley Wood College							
	..					3,000	0 0
Capital Accounts for Building and Equipment							
General Account							
224-6-8 Great Portland St.	58,605	12	7				
Less Transfer to Accumulated Funds	..	1,352	5	5			
						57,253	7 2
204-6 Great Portland Street							
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	..	20,276	15	5			
Mortgage on Great Portland Street Buildings							
Balance at 31st March, 1926	..	24,750	0	0			
Less Repaid	..	1,000	0	0			
						23,750	0 0
						101,280	2 7
Carried forward						216,521	6 5

Brought forward	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ex-Service Men's Fund—
Balance at 31st March, 1926	2,500	0	0
Additions	2,500	0	0
Chorley Wood College—	5,000	0	0
Balance at 31st March, 1926	750	0	0
Additions	250	0	0
Investments Specifically Appropriated—	1,000	0	0
General Account—	21,035	4	7
Balance at 31st March, 1926	7,598	11	2
Blind Babies' Fund—	17,392	11	11
Sunshine House, Chorley Wood
Investments, Endowments—	16,872	11	11
General Account	520	0	0
Balance at 31st March, 1926	2,739	6	3
Additions	105	0	0
Blind Babies' Fund—	2,844	6	3
Balance at 31st March, 1926	500	0	0
Sunshine House, Chorley Wood	2,999	4	6
Ex-Service Men's Fund—
Balance at 31st March, 1926
Chorley Wood College—
Balance at 31st March, 1926
Building and Equipment—
224-6-8 Great Portland Street—
Balance at 31st March, 1926	46,180	18	6
Less Written off	2,309	1	0
Plant at 31st March, 1926	3,911	13	2
Additions less Sales	1,698	19	1
Less Depreciation	5,610	12	3
Furniture and Equipment—	561	1	3
Balance at 31st March, 1926	6,855	14	11
Additions less Sales	170	3	8
Less Depreciation	7,025	18	7
Organ	351	5	11
Building and Equipment—	6,674	12	8
204-6 Great Portland Street—	1,657	6	0
Balance at 31st March, 1926	57,253	7	2
Less Written off	44,026	15	5
	101,280	2	7
	229,512	3	2

Brought forward	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Blind Babies' Fund—									
Balance at 31st March, 1926	1,133	8	9	49,978	2	8	263,195	11	11
Add Transfer from Capital Account for Building and Equipment	1,272	10	7						
Balance from General Charity Fund Account	7,811	13	1						
	8,945	1	10						
Less Transfer to Capital Account for Investments Specifically Appropriated	5,492	18	0	3,452	3	10			
Ex-Service Men's Fund—									
Balance at 31st March, 1926	862	11	9						
Balance from General Charity Fund Account	2,416	7	3						
Less Transfer to Capital Account for General Purposes	3,278	19	0						
	2,500	0	0	778	19	0	54,209	5	6
							£317,404	17	5
Brought forward									
							£317,404	17	5

This Statement does not include the Institute's liability under its guarantee to the Westminster Bank, Ltd., for an advance of £3,668 13s. 2d. to the Newport and Month Blund Aid Society

G. F. MOWATT } Joint Honorary Treasurers of the
A. J. W. KITCHIN } National Institute for the Blind.

We report that we have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required, and that in our opinion the Balance Sheet at the 31st March, 1927, is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Institute's affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Institute.

JACKSON, PINLEY & CO.
Chartered Accountants,
Auditors

58 COLEMAN STREET, E.C. 2.
16th June, 1927.

GENERAL CHARITY FUND ACCOUNT

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health.)

EXPENDITURE

£ s. d. £ s. d.

ORDINARY

MANAGEMENT—

Salaries :

Sighted	9,153	12	8
Blind	694	5	2

9,847 17 10

Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance :

Sighted	108	12	5
Blind	12	11	10

121 4 3

Auditors' Fees

221 0 0

Printing, Stationery, Advertising and Postage

1,875 12 11

Alterations, Repairs and Maintenance

1,502 16 9

Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance, Telephone, Fuel, Light and Cleaning

2,006 0 3

Travelling Expenses

768 6 7

Sundries

267 1 7

16,610 0 2

COST OF MONEY-RAISING, INCLUDING COLLECTIONS, SUBSCRIPTIONS & DONATIONS—

Blind Canvassers' Wages and Allowances

11,957 11 8

House - to - House Collectors' Wages and Allowances

3,406 0 11

Sighted Canvassers' Wages and Allowances

3,361 13 2

Blind Canvassers' Travelling Expenses

2,774 8 11

House - to - House Collectors' Travelling Expenses

611 9 6

Sighted Canvassers' Travelling Expenses

849 11 8

Other Salaries and Wages—

Sighted 11,412 2 8

Blind 864 17 10

Sighted Guides' Wages and Travelling Expenses

3,037 6 1

Other Travelling Expenses

2,994 15 10

Chaplains' Salaries and Expenses

1,006 17 4

Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance :

Sighted 311 11 10

Blind 313 15 3

Branch Office Expenses :

Alterations and Repairs 61 18 2

Fuel, Light and Cleaning 603 6 10

Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Telephone 2,088 11 0

Printing, Stationery, Advertising and Postage

6,733 3 11

Collecting Boxes, Bazaars, Lectures

5,252 12 6

Flag Days

1,890 19 9

Sundries

379 8 10

Proportion of Head Office Expenses charged to Collection

2,486 12 10

62,398 16 6

ALLOWANCES TO BLIND AND SERVICES DIRECTLY FOR THEIR BENEFIT—

Augmentation of Wages

3,717 0 6

Training Fees to Institutions

265 16 9

Higher Education

1,054 16 8

Grant for Wireless Equipment

418 9 2

Relief to Necessitous Blind

4,930 7 3

Carried forward

£10,386 10 4 79,008 16 8

INCOME

£ s. d. £ s. d.

ORDINARY

Subscriptions, Donations and Collections ... 31,967 18 2

LEGACIES—

J. A. Archer, Esq.	125	0	0
Mrs. E. M. Bartlett	100	0	0
Mrs. S. Bennison	100	0	0
T. Boam, Esq.	25	0	0
Major Thomas Bott	313	13	9
Dr. J. Brough	500	0	0
Miss B. Calmar	200	0	0
Mrs. A. E. F. Coombs	457	11	6
Mrs. S. A. Dunning	45	0	0
Lady Fermor-Hesketh	500	0	0
Mrs. F. E. Finchette	29	13	3
Mrs. M. Fox	100	0	0
A. Gearing, Esq.	195	11	3
C. L. Gibson, Esq.	200	0	0
Mrs. E. Hinchcliffe	492	18	0
J. W. Hughes, Esq.	275	0	0
Miss Ellen Huxtable	20	0	0
Miss S. M. Jessop	1,000	0	0
Mrs. C. H. Mallory	1,940	2	7
A. Mantle, Esq.	25	0	0
Mrs. J. C. Martin	650	0	0
Mrs. M. W. Mitchell	250	0	0
Miss A. C. Naylor	298	5	0
Mrs. H. Newman	500	0	0
H. Peech, Esq.	5,000	0	0
Mrs. K. S. Rea	200	0	0
Mrs. S. Robinson	100	0	0
E. Samuel, Esq.	322	19	0
Mrs. M. Sheldon	37	0	5
T. J. Shorter, Esq.	50	0	0
Miss S. I. Skeels	100	0	0
Miss A. Ward	500	0	0
C. Warren, Esq.	17	3	11
Mrs. E. C. Whitehead	50	0	0

14,719 18 8

COLLECTIONS—

Boxes	4,393	2	1
Offertories	2,930	15	0
Bazaars, Lectures, etc.	22,903	12	4
Flag Days	15,280	13	6
House-to-House Collections	9,608	8	8
Offices, Factories, etc., Employees	18,662	0	11

73,778 12 6

INVESTED PROPERTY—

Dividends, Interest and Rents	5,021	5	9
Bailey Bequest	254	4	9
Salomons Bequest	668	9	10
Income Tax Recoverable	275	2	5

6,219 2 9

GOVERNMENT GRANT—

Ministry of Health 10,246 3 8

Carried forward

£136,931 15 9

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				10,386	10	4	79,008	16	8
Fees paid on behalf of inmates in Homes				1,218	1	10			
Massage Fees				60	0	0			
Blind Babies re Admission to Homes				110	2	7			
Medical Exam. Fees for Children entering Homes				75	0	0			
Outfit for Children leaving Homes				15	14	5			
Medical Relief				53	1	4			
Research				311	9	3			
Massage (balance from separate account)				1,272	18	6			
Manuscript Braille				1,232	11	7			
Assignments and Allocations to Local Institutions (see page 9)				22,530	2	0			
Armitage Fund for the Employment of Blind Writers (balance from separate a. count)				67	11	5			
Placement				312	14	11			
Bureau of Information				72	9	8			
							37,718	7	10
Total Ordinary Expenditure							116,727	4	6
EXTRAORDINARY									
MINISTRY OF HEALTH GRANT EXPENDED AS UNDER :									
Massage				20	0	0			
Braille Productions				4,913	12	7			
Home Industries				3,189	5	3			
Guest House for Aged Blind Ladies, Hoole Bank, Chester				301	1	7			
Residential Club for Blind Women				133	19	0			
Blind Women's Home, Brighton				243	2	0			
Clifton Home for Blind Women, Bristol				116	18	0			
Moon Society				874	9	9			
Workshop Employees				184	12	0			
Manuscript				91	12	6			
Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea				147	11	0			
							10,246	3	8
OTHER EXPENSES—									
Interest on Mortgage on New Building				1,462	10	0			
Benevolent Allowances				269	17	6			
Legal and Professional Charges				187	6	4			
Interest on Overdraft				116	5	5			
							2,035	19	3
DEFICIT FROM PUBLICATIONS AND APPARATUS ACCOUNT							11,437	16	6
DEFICIT FROM HOMES AND OTHER ACCOUNTS :									
Blind Babies' Homes				4,282	17	3			
College and Other Homes				3,277	15	3			
Home Industries				401	18	7			
							7,962	11	1
AMOUNTS WRITTEN OFF FREEHOLDS AND LEASEHOLDS—									
General Account				6,382	14	1			
Blind Babies' Fund				930	11	8			
							7,313	5	9
DEPRECIATION :									
FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT AND BRANCH CARS—									
General Account				3,006	2	8			
Blind Babies' Fund				666	10	10			
							3,672	13	6
BALANCE CARRIED TO BALANCE SHEET :									
Blind Babies' Fund				6,539	2	6			
Ex-Service Men's Fund				2,416	7	3			
				8,955	9	9			
Less Deficit General Account				3,792	10	8			
							5,162	19	1
							£164,558	13	4

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward						136,931 15 9
HOME TEACHING SOCIETY				450	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE				64	9	3
ARMITAGE MEMORIAL FUND				122	0	0
GREATER LONDON FUND ALLOCATION				12,000	0	0
SPECIAL DONATION—PROPERTY AT LEAMINGTON VALUED AT				2,500	0	0
RELIEF TO NECESSITOUS BLIND—Special Receipts and Grants				£770	17	1
Bailey Bequest				254	4	9
						1,025 1 10
THE MIDLAND SOCIETIES FOR THE BLIND				2,417	0	7
						18,578 11 8
ALLOCATION OF MANAGEMENT EXPENSES TO :						
Massage				122	13	7
Publications and Apparatus Account				4,546	7	5
Home Industries				144	6	7
Chorley Wood College for Girls with little or no sight				72	3	4
Blind Babies' Home, Chorley Wood				180	8	2
Blind Babies' Home, Southport				180	8	2
Blind Babies' Home, Leamington				180	8	2
Guest House for Aged Blind Ladies, Hoole Bank, Chester				108	5	0
Residential Club for Blind Women				108	5	0
Blind Women's Home, Brighton				72	3	4
Clifton Home for Blind Women				72	3	4
Home Teaching Society				14	8	8
Moon Society				541	4	9
Convalescent and Holiday Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea				288	13	2
						6,631 18 8
EX-SERVICE MEN'S FUND :						
Balance from separate Account						2,416 7 3
						£164,558 13 4

MESSAGE

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries and Wages—Blind	...	509	15	0			
Less Augmentation	...	65	5	0			
					444	10	0
Salaries, Wages and Fees—Sighted					857	13	0
Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance—Blind	...	7	9	4			
Sighted	...	5	19	2			
					13	8	6
Postage and Carriage	...				36	13	4
Cleaning, Upkeep and Laundry	...				1	15	6
Settlement of Blind Masseurs and Masscuses, including Apparatus, Medical Supplies and Appliances	...				629	9	7
Maintenance and Examination Fees	...				526	14	5
Fees paid to Hospitals for supervision of Students' work	...				45	0	0
Printing, Stationery and Advertising	...				32	17	1
Travelling	...				40	17	8
Sundries	...				25	17	7
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Telephone	...				183	4	8
Management Expenses	...				122	13	7
					£2,960	14	11

INCOME		£	s.	d.
By Training, Maintenance and Examination Fees	...	1,398	1	11
Donations	...	32	14	6
Grants :				
Ministry of Health	...	20	0	0
Board of Education	...	67	0	0
Gardner's Trust Scholarships	...	170	0	0
		257	0	0
Balance carried to General Charity Fund Account	...	1,272	18	6

£2,960 14 11

PUBLICATIONS AND APPARATUS

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Value of Stock of Embossed Books, Materials, Manufactured Goods and Apparatus on hand 1st April, 1926	...	...	...	27,761	4	8
Purchases of Materials and Apparatus	...	...	...	6,865	11	6
Wages Paid to Blind Workers (exclusive of Augmentation)	...	...	...	2,910	13	2
Wages Paid to Sighted Workers	...	...	...	4,681	3	9
Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance :						
Blind	...	106	3	7		
Sighted	...	109	2	1		
				215	5	8
Management and Editorial Salaries and Expenses	...	...	...	4,546	7	5
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance, Telephone, Fuel, Light and Cleaning	...	...	...	1,119	11	10
Repairs and Maintenance	...	...	...	165	6	3
Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	840	13	1
Reductions allowed from Cost Price of Books (and Free distribution of Books and Apparatus, to the value of £2,470 12s. 11d. supplied to Circulating Free Libraries for the Blind)	...	...	...	7,610	12	6
Postage, Carriage and Delivery of Goods	...	...	...	434	4	6
Depreciation on Plant	...	...	...	561	1	3
Sundries	...	...	...	71	14	0
				£57,783	9	7

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Sale of Embossed Books and Apparatus, including Watches and Typewriters	15,587	8	3
Interest on Endowment	70	16	8
Grant, Ministry of Health	4,913	12	7
Stock at 31st March, 1927	25,617	6	9
Donations	156	8	10
Balance carried to General Charity Fund Account	11,437	16	6

£57,783 9 7

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

61

HOMES FOR BLIND BABIES—CHORLEY WOOD, HERTS.; LEAMINGTON,
WARWICKSHIRE; SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Board of Education)

EXPENDITURE

	CHORLEY WOOD			LEAMINGTON			SOUTHPORT			TOTAL		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Salaries of Teachers, Matrons and Nurses	617	10	4	652	11	2	668	13	9	1,938	15	3
Wages of Servants (including Laundry, Charwomen and Gardeners)	510	15	11	364	2	10	339	19	0	1,214	17	9
Blind Massage							75	12	0	75	12	0
Health, Pensions, Unemployment and Workmen's Compensation Insurance	29	1	7	27	4	9	27	3	7	83	9	11
Provisions	670	16	9	628	9	3	604	12	5	1,903	18	5
Printing, Stationery, Postage, Educational Books and Apparatus	21	3	1	12	11	5	19	16	9	53	11	3
Management Expenses	180	8	2	180	8	2	180	8	2	541	4	6
Upkeep of Buildings and Grounds (including Repairs and Insurance)	445	7	4	128	15	2	227	13	7	801	16	1
Fuel, Light and Cleaning.. .. .	413	5	7	265	16	7	339	14	5	1,018	16	7
Rent, Rates, Taxes and Telephone	139	1	4	119	11	2	151	16	11	410	9	5
Renewals	102	6	8	39	0	10	23	11	5	164	18	11
Medical Treatment, Medicine, Dressings, Bandages, etc. ..	244	12	10	16	1	4	66	14	9	327	8	11
Travelling	15	2	11	7	1	9	19	19	10	42	4	6
Clothing, Staff	32	6	8	14	12	7	21	13	5	68	12	8
Clothing, Babies	74	9	0	15	3	3	40	5	5	129	17	8
Sundries	28	14	6	31	14	6	23	4	7	83	13	7

£3,525 2 8 £2,503 4 9 £2,831 0 0

£8,859 7 5

HOMES FOR BLIND BABIES—CHORLEY WOOD, HERTS.; LEAMINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE; SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Board of Education)

INCOME

	CHORLEY WOOD			LEAMINGTON			SOUTHPORT			TOTAL		
	£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
By Grant, Board of Education	247	10	0	214	10	0	214	10	0	676	10	0
Grants, Local Authorities for Maintenance.. .	510	15	9	474	19	5	711	11	0	1,697	6	2
Sums paid otherwise than out of Local Rates . . .	143	5	7	304	19	6	51	5	1	499	10	2
Donations .. .	316	10	8	4	13	0	693	1	2	1,014	4	10
Dividends on Investments .. .	362	17	0							362	17	0
Miscellaneous Revenue .. .	26	2	0							26	2	0
Legacy—Mrs. Richmond .. .							300	0	0	300	0	0
Balance carried to General Charity Fund Account .. .	1,918	1	8	1,504	2	10	860	12	9	4,282	17	3

(Total column, £4,282 17s. 3d.)

£3,525 2 8 £2,503 4 9 £2,831 0 0

£8,859 7 5

**CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE FOR GIRLS WITH LITTLE OR NO SIGHT
CONVALESCENT AND HOLIDAY HOME, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA
GUEST HOUSE FOR AGED BLIND LADIES, HOOLE BANK, CHESTER
HOME FOR BLIND WOMEN, BRIGHTON
RESIDENTIAL CLUB FOR BLIND WOMEN, LONDON**

Accounts for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

EXPENDITURE

	CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE	CONVALESCENT AND HOLIDAY HOME, ST. LEONARDS- ON-SEA	GUEST HOUSE FOR AGED BLIND LADIES, HOOLE BANK, CHESTER	HOME FOR BLIND WOMEN BRIGHTON	RESIDENTIAL CLUB FOR BLIND WOMEN, LONDON	TOTAL
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Salaries of Teachers, Matrons, Servants, etc.	2,296 2 7	613 7 1	468 6 5	371 1 8	473 15 5	4,222 13 2
Health, Pensions, Un- employment and Workmen's Com- pensation Insurance	19 7 9	15 9 10	27 19 4	8 7 4	13 15 6	84 19 9
Provisions	1,010 14 9	1,179 18 3	571 8 8	621 10 4	933 19 11	4,317 11 11
Laundry	229 1 8	155 17 0	124 0 5	123 6 7	184 2 4	816 8 0
Other Household Ex- penses and Sundries	24 3 10	41 7 11	22 1 8	13 19 3	18 7 1	119 19 9
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Tele- phone	266 3 11	155 10 7	67 16 11	80 5 10	738 17 4	1,308 14 7
Fuel, Light and Clean- ing	560 7 8	331 5 9	241 9 6	187 9 6	192 3 9	1,512 16 2
Repairs and Main- tenance	—	81 10 6	64 14 6	94 8 9	176 11 7	417 5 4
Medical Charges ...	—	88 13 7	30 10 4	132 16 1	4 0 2	256 0 2
Printing, Stationery, and Postage, Educa- tional Books and Apparatus	202 16 11	39 17 4	19 8 7	18 7 1	17 18 1	298 8 0
Travelling	29 16 1	19 8 4	24 19 6	8 8 9	1 11 5	84 4 1
Renewals	54 8 8	37 19 11	16 1 6	42 10 7	40 18 8	191 19 4
Clothing, Inmates ...	—	4 12 5	—	—	—	4 12 5
Management Ex- penses	72 3 4	288 13 2	108 5 0	72 3 4	108 5 0	649 9 10
School Teachers Super- annuation	111 11 0	—	—	—	—	111 11 0
Upkeep of Building and Grounds, including Repairs, Insurance, and Wages of En- gineers	492 16 0	—	351 8 0	—	—	844 4 0
Extra Accommodation Rent of Rooms ...	—	13 2 6	—	—	—	13 2 6
	<u>£5,369 14 2</u>	<u>£3,066 14 2</u>	<u>£2,138 10 4</u>	<u>£1,774 15 1</u>	<u>£2,904 6 3</u>	<u>£15,254 0 0</u>

**CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE FOR GIRLS WITH LITTLE OR NO SIGHT
CONVALESCENT AND HOLIDAY HOME, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA
GUEST HOUSE FOR AGED BLIND LADIES, HOOLE BANK, CHESTER
HOME FOR BLIND WOMEN, BRIGHTON
RESIDENTIAL CLUB FOR BLIND WOMEN, LONDON**

Accounts for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

INCOME

	CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE	CONVALESCENT AND HOLIDAY HOME, ST. LEONARDS- ON-SEA	GUEST HOUSE FOR AGED BLIND LADIES, HOOLE BANK, CHESTER	HOME FOR BLIND WOMEN, BRIGHTON	RESIDENTIAL CLUB FOR BLIND WOMEN, LONDON	TOTAL
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Maintenance Fees and Fees paid by Pupils' Parents and Guar- dians	1,844 8 5	2,118 13 9	944 15 7	985 17 0	1,913 18 6	7,807 13 3
Fees paid by Educa- tional Authorities, etc.	774 0 0	--	—	—	--	774 0 0
Fees paid by the National Institute for the Blind	333 6 8	256 5 0	768 6 1	75 10 0	--	1,433 7 9
Donations and Collec- tions	218 1 10	15 19 9	14 10 0	63 0 4		311 11 11
Sundry Receipts ...	28 10 8	—	—	15 0	--	29 5 8
Dividends on Invest- ments	325 15 4	292 3 10	--	—	--	617 19 2
Income Tax Recov- erable	28 4 3	—	—	—	—	28 4 3
Grant, Ministry of Health	--	147 11 0	301 1 7	243 2 0	133 19 0	825 13 7
Rents	--	—	56 10 0	—	—	56 10 0
Legacy :— J. G. Perry, Esq. ...	—	—	--	91 19 2	—	91 19 2
Balance carried to General Charity Fund Account ...	1,817 7 0	236 0 10	53 7 1	314 11 7	856 8 9	3,277 15 3
(Total Column £3,277 15 3)						

£5,369 14 2

£3,066 14 2

£2,138 10 4

£1,774 15 1

£2,904 6 3

£15,254 0 0

WIRELESS EQUIPMENT FUND FOR THE BLIND

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Cost of Provision and Distribution of Wireless Equipment and Licenses	502 19 11	By Balance from previous year	3 8 3
		Donations	81 2 6
		Grant—National Institute for the Blind ...	418 9 2
	<u>£502 19 11</u>		<u>£502 19 11</u>

EX-SERVICE MEN'S FUND

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
COST OF COLLECTION OF SUBSCRIPTIONS, DONATIONS & COLLECTIONS.		By Subscriptions, Donations, and Collections	2,923 19 1
Salaries and Wages—Sighted ...	580 7 3	Dividends on Investments and Deposit Interest	180 14 7
Health Pensions and Unemployment Insurance	3 9 0	Legacies :—	
Fuel, Light and Cleaning	7 11 5	Mrs. Elizabeth Dunn	50 0 0
Rent, Rates, Taxes, Insurance, and Telephone	40 0 5	Mrs. A. H. Pickering... ..	2,000 0 0
Printing, Stationery, Advertising and Postage	357 15 1		<u>2,050 0 0</u>
Travelling and General Expenses	115 8 2		
	<u>1,104 11 4</u>		
Amounts Expended in Grants, Relief and Services, on behalf of Blind Ex-Service Men	1,633 15 1		
Balance Carried to General Charity Fund Account	2,416 7 3		
	<u>£5,154 13 8</u>		<u>£5,154 13 8</u>

ARMITAGE MEMORIAL FUND

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To General Charity Fund Account	122 0 0	By Cash received from the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers... ..	122 0 0
	<u>122 0 0</u>		<u>122 0 0</u>

ARMITAGE FUND FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF BLIND WRITERS

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Amount paid to Blind Writers	184 15 4	By Cash received from the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers... ..	117 3 11
		Balance carried to General Charity Fund Account	67 11 5
	<u>£184 15 4</u>		<u>£184 15 4</u>

LEEDS EMBOSSED BOOKS FUND

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Amount expended on goods supplied to Leeds Institution	68 15 1	By Cash received from the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers	68 8 4
Balance carried to Balance Sheet	5 6 1	Deposit Interest	5 12 10
	<u>£74 1 2</u>		<u>£74 1 2</u>

NOTE.—The Capital Stock of this Fund is held in trust by the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers, and the dividends received and paid over by them are for the supply of Braille Literature, Apparatus, etc., for the benefit of the Blind of Leeds and District.

BAILEY BEQUEST

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To General Charity Fund (Dividends) for general purposes	254 4 9	By Dividend on Investment	559 6 4
Relief to Necessitous Blind	254 4 9		
London Association for the Blind	25 8 5		
Barclay Workshop for Blind Women	25 8 5		
	<u>£559 6 4</u>		<u>£559 6 4</u>

SALOMONS BEQUEST

Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To General Charity Fund Account	668 9 10	By Dividend on Investment	668 9 10
	<u>£668 9 10</u>		<u>£668 9 10</u>

GREATER LONDON FUND FOR THE BLIND

Receipts and Payments for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

RECEIPTS		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Cash at Bank and in Hand,					4,293	15	5
1st April, 1926	...	...	...	...
Annual Subscriptions	...	...	293	15	10		
Donations	...	...	13,745	15	8		
Collections :—							
Boxes :—							
Ordinary	...	1,404	13	11			
Licensed Victual- lers' Appeal...	...	2,269	19	9			
			3,674	13	8		
Offertories	...	...	838	0	8		
Flag Days	...	...	8,191	15	6		
Bazaars, Lectures, etc.	...	...	4,873	8	2		
House - to - House Collections	...	...	6,928	9	5		
Offices, Factories, etc.—Em- ployees	...	...	11,843	6	1		
					50,389	5	0
Deposit Interest	...	...			149	15	3

Carried forward .. £54,832 15 8

PAYMENTS										
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Salaries :										
Clerical Staff—										
Sighted ...		2,399	18	7						
Canvassers—Sighted		647	10	0						
Travelling Expenses :										
Canvassers — Blind		562	18	1						
—Sighted		69	10	1						
House-to-House Col- lectors—Blind ...		217	2	9						
Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance ...		144	0	0						
					4,040	19	6			
Other Travelling Ex- penses ... 69 13 11										
Printing, Stationery, Advertising and Postages ... 1,774 1 6										
Rent, Rates, Taxes and Insurance ... 248 5 7										
Collecting Boxes, Bazaars, Lectures ... 1,872 3 0										
Flag Days ... 1,083 16 10										
Audit Fee ... 21 0 0										
Sundry Expenses ... 14 5 5										
					5,083	6	3			
								9,124	5	9
Salaries, etc., Blind Staff :										
Secretaries and Organisers ...		1,408	0	0						
Chaplains and Canvassers ...		6,026	10	0						
House-to-House Collectors ...		2,692	14	1						
Health, Pensions and Unemploy- ment Insurance ...		118	1	10						
Guides' Wages and Travelling Expenses ...		2,658	14	8						
								12,904	0	7
Allocations to participating Societies:										
National Institute for the Blind ...		12,000	0	0						
London Society for Teaching and Training the Blind ...		4,370	4	6						
London Association for the Blind ...		2,531	3	8						
Incorporated Asso- ciation for Pro- moting the Gen- eral Welfare of the Blind ...		2,550	1	6						
Blind Employment Factory ...		4,339	16	4						
Barclay Workshop for Blind Women		730	1	3						
The Workshop for the Blind of Kent		470	4	3						
Cost of Distribution		8	8	6						
					15,000	0	0			
								27,000	0	0
Grants to Other Societies :										
Metropolitan and Adjacent Coun- ties Association for the Blind		1,260	0	0						
National Library for the Blind		350	0	0						
Middlesex Association for the Blind ...		280	0	0						
Carried forward ... £1,890 0 0 £49,028 6 4										

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	54,832	15	8

£54,832 15 8

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	1,890	0	0	49,028	6	4
Croydon Voluntary Association for the Blind ...	279	15	11			
Indigent Blind Visiting Society ...	154	0	0			
Essex Voluntary Association for the Blind ...	126	0	0			
North London Homes for Aged Blind Men and Women ...	112	0	0			
Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind ...	112	0	0			
Kent County Association for the Blind ...	84	0	0			
Hertfordshire Society for the Blind ...	70	0	0			
Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind ...	70	0	0			
East Ham Welfare Association for the Blind ...	28	0	0			
Laura Strickland Music Library for the Blind ...	22	0	0			
South London Association for Assisting the Blind ...	22	0	0			
Cecilia Home for Blind Women	20	0	0			
Hepburn Starey Blind Aid Society ...	20	0	0			
				3,051	18	10
BALANCE—Cash at Bank and in Hand	2,452	10	6			
Cash on deposit ...	300	0	0			
				2,752	10	6
				<u>£54,832</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>8</u>

NOTE :—The total sum paid for services to the blind, as shown in the above account, amounts to £42,955 19s. 5d. out of a total of £50,389 5s. 0d. collected

G. F. MOWATT	}	Joint Honorary Treasurers of the National Institute for the Blind.
A. J. W. KITCHIN		

We have examined the above Account with the books and vouchers of the Fund, and certify the same to be in accordance therewith, and in our opinion correct.

JACKSON, PIXLEY & Co.,
Chartered Accountants.
Auditors.

58 COLEMAN STREET, E.C.2
16th June, 1927

CLIFTON HOME FOR BLIND WOMEN, BRISTOL

Balance Sheet, 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

	£	s.	d.
To Sundry Creditors ...	39	6	5
Accumulated Funds :			
Balance at 31st March, 1926 ...	1,386	10	7
Add Balance from Income and Expenditure Account...	137	15	7
	1,524	6	2
	£1,563	12	7

	£	s.	d.
By Cash at Bank and on Hand ...	105	14	3
Investments (at Market Value 31st March, 1921) :			
4% Dominion of Canada Registered Stock ...	72	0	0
4% London Midland and Scottish Railway Stock ...	138	6	3
4% New Zealand Stock, 1929 ...	182	17	2
	393	3	5
Freehold Property ...	600	0	0
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment at 31st March, 1926 ...	395	17	0
Additions ...	2	9	0
	398	6	0
Less Depreciation...	19	18	4
	378	7	8
Sundry Debtors ...	86	7	3
	£1,563	12	7

G. F. MOWATT } Joint Honorary Treasurers of the
A. J. W. KITCHIN } National Institute for the Blind.

We report that we have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required, and that in our opinion the Balance Sheet at the 31st March, 1927, is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Home's affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Home.

58 COLEMAN STREET, E.C.2
16th June, 1927

JACKSON, PIXLEY & Co.,
Chartered Accountants.
Auditors.

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.
To Maintenance ...	363	4	10
Salaries and Wages ...	261	4	8
Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance ...	9	17	0
Fuel, Light and Cleaning ...	74	5	0
Printing, Stationery and Postage ...	9	18	5
Rates, Taxes and Insurance ...	28	3	10
Travelling Expenses ...	7	10	
Medical Fees and Drugs ...	13	0	6
Repairs and Renewals ...	81	7	1
Laundry ...	58	15	6
Audit Fee ...	5	0	0
Sundries ...	33	18	6
Management Expenses ...	72	3	4
Depreciation on Furniture ...	19	18	4
Balance carried to Balance Sheet ...	137	15	7
	£1,169	0	5

INCOME.	£	s.	d.
By Maintenance Fees ...	552	8	9
Fees paid by National Institute for the Blind ...	118	0	9
Donations ...	58	14	6
Grant, Ministry of Health ...	146	18	0
Grant, National Institute for the Blind ...	271	19	3
	418	17	3
Dividends on Investments ...	17	8	10
Income Tax Recoverable ...	3	10	4
	£1,169	0	5

HOME TEACHING SOCIETY

Balance Sheet, 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Sundry Creditors				3	14	10	By Cash at Bank				189	11	5
Accumulated Funds :													
Balance from Income and Expen- diture Account	365	12	7										
Less deficit at 31st March, 1926	179	16	0										
				185	16	7							
				£189	11	5					£189	11	5

G. F. MOWATT }
A. J. W. KITCHIN } *Members of the Committee.*

We report that we have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required, and that in our opinion the Balance Sheet at the 31st March, 1927, is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Home Teaching Society's affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Society.

58 COLEMAN STREET, E.C.2
16th June, 1927

JACKSON, PIXLEY & Co.,
Chartered Accountants.
Auditors.

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

EXPENDITURE				INCOME						
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Embossed Literature			4 19 9	By Annual Subscriptions				99 5 6		
Printing, Stationery and Postage ...			1 2 9	Donations				77 11 0		
Audit Fee			5 0 0	Collections				2 18 6		
Repayment to National Institute for the Blind on account of pay- ments to Home Teachers ...	450	0	0	Legacy :						
Management Expenses	14	8	8	Major Thomas Bott				313 13 9		
Balance carried to Balance Sheet ...	365	12	7	Grant, Ministry of Health				347 15 0		
	£841	3	9					£841	3	9

Balance Sheet, 31st March, 1927

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Sundry Creditors				273	3	1
Capital Account for Endowment ...				2,667	14	5
Accumulated Funds :						
Balance at 31st March, 1926 ...	12,506	16	2			
Add Balance from General Charity Fund Account ...	3,389	2	0			
				<hr/>	15,895	18 2

G. F. MOWATT	} Joint Honorary Treasurers of the
A. J. W. KITCHIN	
	} National Institute for the Blind

72

General Charity Fund Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

[illegible]

Publications Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1927

(This Account is presented in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Health)

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Value of Stock, 1st April, 1926 ...	1,935 2 8	By Sale of Books	2,689 15 11
Salaries and Wages	1,624 16 6	Sale of Magazines and Newspapers	650 19 8
Health, Pensions and Unemployment Insurance	35 10 0		3,340 15 7
Materials for Stereotyping, Embossing, Binding, etc.	380 15 5	Grant, Ministry of Health ...	874 9 9
Printing, Stationery, Postage, Carriage and Packing	146 10 1	Stock at 31st March, 1927	2,108 12 4
Fuel, Light, Water and Power ...	60 0 1	Balance transferred to General Charity Fund Account	426 8 10
Rates, Taxes, Insurance and Telephone... ..	82 18 2		
Repairs and Maintenance to Premises and Machinery	91 13 8		
General Expenses	11 18 7		
Management Expenses	541 4 9		
Value of Free Distribution of Books, Pamphlets, etc. :			
Gifts 25 16 3			
Books, etc., supplied to Circulating Free Libraries for the Blind	672 6 2		
	698 2 5		
Reductions allowed from cost of			
Books	694 15 10		
Magazines	132 7 8		
Newspapers	314 10 8		
	1,839 16 7		
	£6,750 6 6		£6,750 6 6

INVESTMENTS, 31st MARCH, 1927.

INVESTMENTS FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

5% War Stock, 1929-47	13,719 12 6
5% National War Bonds, 1928, 2nd Series	209 15 0
3% India Stock	174 0 0
4% Funding Loan, 1960-90	349 13 8
4½% Conversion Loan, 1940-44	10,000 0 0

24,452 11 2

BLIND BABIES' FUND

4% Consolidated Loan, 1957	1,773 15 0
3½% Dominion of Canada Stock, 1930-50	1,394 0 0

3,167 15 0

EX-SERVICE MEN'S FUND.

4% Funding Loan, 1960-90	2,500 0 0
3½% Conversion Loan	2,500 0 0

5,000 0 0

CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE.

3% India Stock	1,000 0 0
------------------------	-----------

INVESTMENTS SPECIALLY APPROPRIATED.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

BAILEY BEQUEST—	
3% Local Loans	9,881 7 1

SALOMONS BEQUEST—	
4% Consolidated Loan, 1957	9,600 0 0

MARY SHAW BEQUEST—	
London and North Eastern Railway 5% Preference Stock	123 5 0
London and North Eastern Railway Deferred Ordinary Stock	40 12 0
London and North Eastern Railway 4% Second Preference Stock	264 12 6
Metropolitan Railway Consolidated Stock	214 5 0
Metropolitan Railway Surplus Land Stock	108 18 0
Globe Telegraph and Trust Co. 6% Cumulative Preference Stock	247 5 0
Globe Telegraph and Trust Co. Ordinary Stock	555 0 0

1,553 17 6

BLIND BABIES' FUND.

BLIND BABIES' HOME, CHORLEY WOOD.

4% Funding Loan, 1960-90	2,596 11 2
United Steel Companies, Ltd., 6% Obligations	5,000 0 0

7,598 11 2

INVESTMENTS—ENDOWMENTS.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

Hornshaw Endowment—5% War Stock, 1929-47	1,017 11 0
Sir Alfred Jones Trust and Estate Co., Ltd.	1,000 0 0
Rev. F. J. Hackett—2½% Annuities	100 0 0
Sir John Howard—5% War Stock, 1929-47	200 0 0
Wm. Brown Hextall, Esq.—4½% Conversion Loan, 1940-44	5,000 0 0
Louis Sterne, Esq.—3½% Conversion Loan	50 0 0
Mrs. Elizabeth Kirkham—3½% Conversion Loan	500 0 0
Miss Jesson—3½% Conversion Loan	20 0 0

SIR ARTHUR PEARSON MEMORIAL FUND.

3½% Conversion Loan	2,996 4 2
5% Great Western Railway Guaranteed Stock	1,100 15 9
5% Great Western Railway Preference Stock	1,076 3 3
4% London, Midland and Scottish Railway Preference Stock	851 7 1
4% London, Midland and Scottish Railway Debenture Stock	427 4 0
4% London and North Eastern Railway Second Preference Stock	844 9 9
3% Local Loans	276 0 0
5% War Stock, 1929-47	1,932 16 11

9,505 0 11

BLIND BABIES' FUND.

BLIND BABIES' HOME, CHORLEY WOOD.

Sorby, T. G., Esq.—3% Local Loans	107 14 3
Edwards, Mrs. A. R.—5% National War Bonds, 1928, 3rd Series	477 10 0
Spiers, Miss A. D.—5% National War Bonds, 1928, 3rd Series	477 10 0
Sunday League—5% War Stock, 1929-47	47 17 0
Hornshaw Endowment—5% War Stock, 1929-47	1,020 0 0
Chapman, Miss Vaughan—4% Consolidated Loan, 1957	100 0 0
Block, Mrs. Lucy—4½% Conversion Loan, 1940-44	508 15 0

BLIND BABIES' HOME, SOUTHPORT.

Graves, Mr. and Mrs. H. R., Investment Account—3½% Conversion Loan	2,739 6 3
	105 0 0

2,844 6 3

EX-SERVICE MEN'S FUND.

William Brown Hextall, Esq.—4½% Conversion Loan, 1940-44	500 0 0
--	---------

CHORLEY WOOD COLLEGE.

William Brown Hextall, Esq.—4% Great Western Railway Debenture Stock	2,999 4 6
--	-----------

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET

31st March, 1927

	GENERAL ACCOUNT	CLIFTON HOME	HOME TEACHING SOCIETY	MOON SOCIETY	TOTAL
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Leeds Embossed Books Fund	137 13 4	—	—	—	137 13 4
Sundry Creditors and Credit Balances	5,082 11 0	39 6 5	3 14 10	273 3 1	5,398 15 4
Capital Accounts for General Purposes :—					
General Account	48,482 10 7	—	—	—	48,482 10 7
Blind Babies Fund	3,167 15 0	—	—	—	3,167 15 0
Ex-Service Men's Fund	5,000 0 0	—	—	—	5,000 0 0
Chorley Wood College	1,000 0 0	—	—	—	1,000 0 0
Capital Accounts for Investments					
Specifically Appropriated :—					
General Account	21,035 4 7	—	—	—	21,035 4 7
Blind Babies Fund	7,598 11 2	—	—	—	7,598 11 2
Capital Accounts for Endowments :—					
General Account	17,392 11 11	—	—	2,667 14 5	20,060 6 4
Blind Babies Fund	2,844 6 3	—	—	—	2,844 6 3
Ex-Service Men's Fund	500 0 0	—	—	—	500 0 0
Chorley Wood College	3,000 0 0	—	—	—	3,000 0 0
Capital Accounts for Building and Equipment :—					
General Account	101,280 2 7	—	—	—	101,280 2 7
Convalescent and Holiday Home... ..	2,378 5 10	—	—	—	2,378 5 10
Guest House for Aged Blind Ladies	7,275 1 3	—	—	—	7,275 1 3
Furniture at Homes, Branches and Branch Cars	11,445 13 2	—	—	—	11,445 13 2
Blind Babies Fund	24,906 14 4	—	—	—	24,906 14 4
Home Industries	668 10 11	—	—	—	668 10 11
Accumulated Funds :—					
General Account	49,978 2 8	1,524 6 2	185 16 7	15,895 18 2	67,584 3 7
Blind Babies Fund	3,452 3 10	—	—	—	3,452 3 10
Ex-Service Men's Fund	778 19 0	—	—	—	778 19 0
	<u>£317,404 17 5</u>	<u>£1,563 12 7</u>	<u>£189 11 5</u>	<u>£18,836 15 8</u>	<u>£337,994 17 1</u>

By Cash at Bank and in Hand	
Cash on Deposit :—	
Ex-Service Men's Fund	
Leeds Embossed Books Fund	
Investments for General Purposes :—	
General Account :—	
Freehold and Leasehold H Investments	
Blind Babies Fund	
Ex-Service Men's Fund	
Chorley Wood College	
Investments Specifically Appropriated :—	
General Account	
Blind Babies Fund	
Investments Endowments :—	
General Account	
Blind Babies Fund	
Ex-Service Men's Fund	
Chorley Wood College	
Building and Equipment :—	
General Account	
Convalescent and Holiday Hom	
Guest House for Aged Blind La	
Furniture at Homes, Branch	
Branch Cars	
Home Industries	
Blind Babies Fund	
Mortgages	
Livestock, Chorley Wood College	
Stock... ..	
Sundry Debtors and Debit Balances	

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET

31st March, 1927

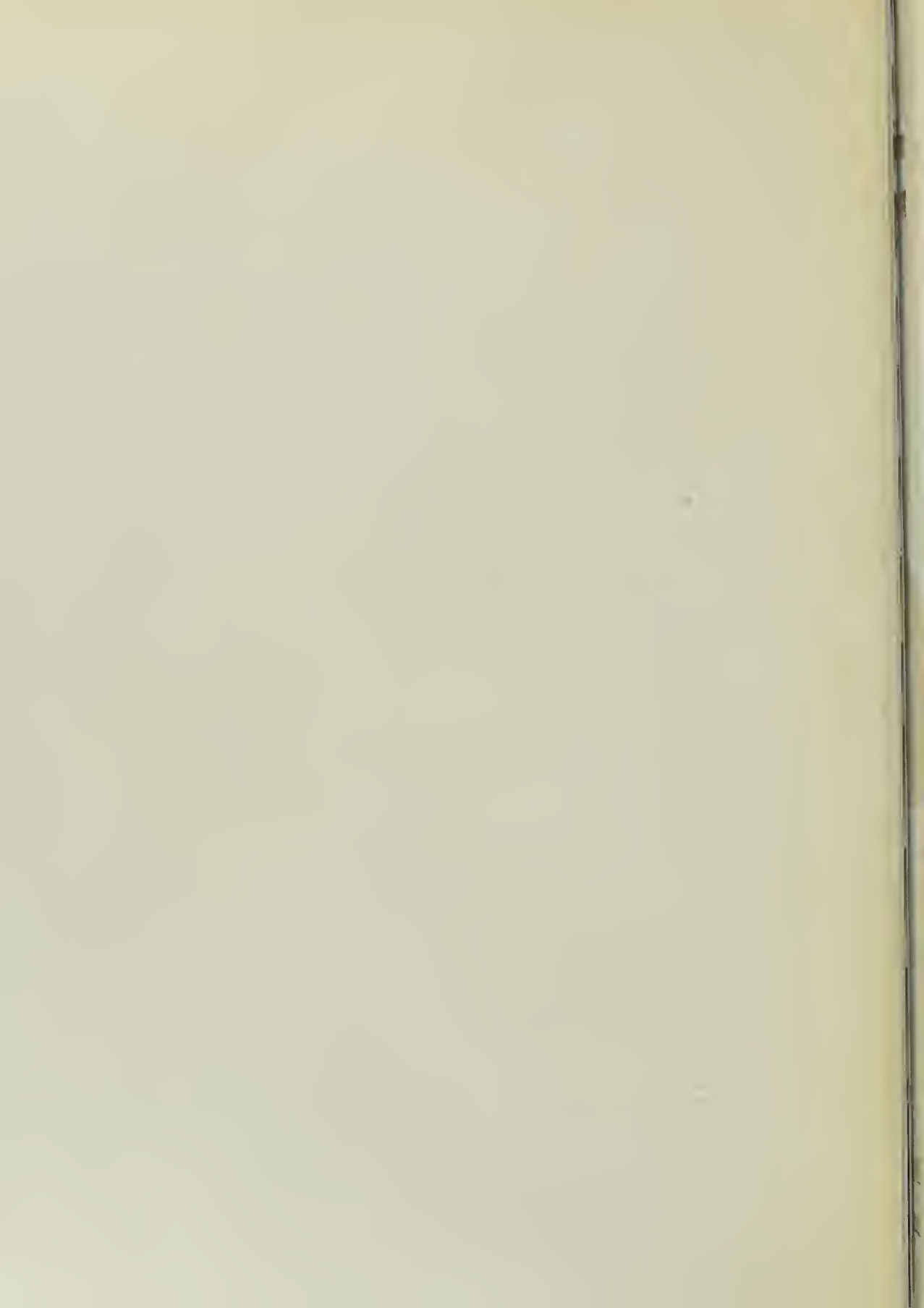
	GENERAL ACCOUNT	CLIFTON HOME	HOME TEACHING SOCIETY	MOON SOCIETY	TOTAL
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Leeds Embossed Books Fund	137 13 4	—	—	—	137 13 4
Sundry Creditors and Credit Balances	5,082 11 0	39 6 5	3 14 10	273 3 1	5,398 15 4
Capital Accounts for General Purposes :—					
General Account	48,482 10 7	—	—	—	48,482 10 7
Blind Babies Fund	3,167 15 0	—	—	—	3,167 15 0
Ex-Service Men's Fund	5,000 0 0	—	—	—	5,000 0 0
Chorley Wood College	1,000 0 0	—	—	—	1,000 0 0
Capital Accounts for Investments					
Specifically Appropriated :—					
General Account	21,035 4 7	—	—	—	21,035 4 7
Blind Babies Fund	7,598 11 2	—	—	—	7,598 11 2
Capital Accounts for Endowments :—					
General Account	17,392 11 11	—	—	2,667 14 5	20,060 6 4
Blind Babies Fund	2,844 6 3	—	—	—	2,844 6 3
Ex-Service Men's Fund	500 0 0	—	—	—	500 0 0
Chorley Wood College	3,000 0 0	—	—	—	3,000 0 0
Capital Accounts for Building and Equipment :—					
General Account	101,280 2 7	—	—	—	101,280 2 7
Convalescent and Holiday Home... ..	2,378 5 10	—	—	—	2,378 5 10
Guest House for Aged Blind Ladies	7,275 1 3	—	—	—	7,275 1 3
Furniture at Homes, Branches and Branch Cars	11,445 13 2	—	—	—	11,445 13 2
Blind Babies Fund	24,906 14 4	—	—	—	24,906 14 4
Home Industries	668 10 11	—	—	—	668 10 11
Accumulated Funds :—					
General Account	49,978 2 8	1,524 6 2	185 16 7	15,895 18 2	67,584 3 7
Blind Babies Fund	3,452 3 10	—	—	—	3,452 3 10
Ex-Service Men's Fund	778 19 0	—	—	—	778 19 0
	<u>£317,404 17 5</u>	<u>£1,563 12 7</u>	<u>£189 11 5</u>	<u>£18,836 15 8</u>	<u>£337,994 17 1</u>

By Cash at Bank
Cash on Deposits
Ex-Service Men's Fund
Leeds Embossed Books Fund
Investments for General Purposes
Freehold Investments
Blind Babies Fund
Ex-Service Men's Fund
Chorley Wood College
Investments for General Purposes
Blind Babies Fund
Investments for General Purposes
Blind Babies Fund
Ex-Service Men's Fund
Chorley Wood College
Building and Equipment
General Account
Convalescent and Holiday Home
Guest House for Aged Blind Ladies
Furniture at Homes, Branches and Branch Cars
Home Industries
Mortgages
Livestock, Cattle
Stock...
Sundry Debtors

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET

31st March, 1927

TOTAL				GENERAL ACCOUNT	CLIFTON HOME	HOME TEACHING SOCIETY	MOON SOCIETY	TOTAL
£ s. d.				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash at Bank and in Hand	...	...	...	17,295 4 3	105 14 3	189 11 5	629 18 2	18,220 8 1
Cash on Deposit :—								
Ex-Service Men's Fund	...	...	...	778 19 0	—	—	—	778 19 0
Leeds Embossed Books Fund	...	...	...	137 13 4	—	—	—	137 13 4
Investments for General Purposes :—								
General Account :								
Freehold and Leasehold Houses and Investments	...	...	...	48,482 10 7	993 3 5	—	10,113 16 6	59,589 10 6
Blind Babies Fund	...	...	...	3,167 15 0	—	—	—	3,167 15 0
Ex-Service Men's Fund	...	...	...	5,000 0 0	—	—	—	5,000 0 0
Chorley Wood College	...	...	...	1,000 0 0	—	—	—	1,000 0 0
Investments Specifically Appropriated :—								
General Account	...	...	...	21,035 4 7	—	—	—	21,035 4 7
Blind Babies Fund	...	...	...	7,598 11 2	—	—	—	7,598 11 2
Investments Endowments :—								
General Account	...	...	...	17,392 11 11	—	—	2,667 14 5	20,060 6 4
Blind Babies Fund	...	...	...	2,844 6 3	—	—	—	2,844 6 3
Ex-Service Men's Fund	...	...	...	500 0 0	—	—	—	500 0 0
Chorley Wood College	...	...	...	2,999 4 6	—	—	—	2,999 4 6
Building and Equipment :—								
General Account	...	...	...	101,280 2 7	378 7 8	—	2,937 4 3	104,595 14 6
Convalescent and Holiday Home...	...	...	...	2,378 5 10	—	—	—	2,378 5 10
Guest House for Aged Blind Ladies	...	...	...	7,275 1 3	—	—	—	7,275 1 3
Furniture at Homes, Branches and Branch Cars	...	...	...	11,445 13 2	—	—	—	11,445 13 2
Home Industries	...	...	...	668 10 11	—	—	—	668 10 11
Blind Babies Fund	...	...	...	24,906 14 4	—	—	—	24,906 14 4
Mortgages	...	...	...	1,600 0 0	—	—	—	1,600 0 0
Livestock, Chorley Wood College	...	...	...	5 0 0	—	—	—	5 0 0
Stock...	...	...	...	32,196 1 11	—	—	2,108 12 4	34,304 14 3
Sundry Debtors and Debit Balances	...	...	...	7,417 6 10	86 7 3	—	379 10 0	7,883 4 1
				<u>£317,404 17 5</u>	<u>£1,563 12 7</u>	<u>£189 11 5</u>	<u>£18,836 15 8</u>	<u>£337,994 17 1</u>



*The Members of the Executive Council of the National Institute for the Blind
wish to express their sincerest thanks to :*

- The tens of thousands of Annual Subscribers, Contributors and Donors throughout the country for their most generous financial assistance during the year.
- The Donors of gifts of clothing, Christmas parcels, etc., for distribution among the blind poor.
- The Organisers and Supporters of functions in aid of the Institute's work.
- Theatrical Proprietors, Managers, and others for the loan of theatres, halls, etc.
- Theatrical and Concert Artistes for their innumerable services.
- The Honorary Members of all Headquarters Committees.
- The Honorary Members of all Committees formed for special purposes.
- The Press throughout the country for their invaluable and never-failing generosity in giving free publicity to details of the Institute's work and objects, and of matters relative to the general welfare of the blind.
- The British Broadcasting Corporation and the "Radio Times" for invaluable help and co-operation.
- Printing Firms for valuable assistance in propaganda work.
- Business and Industrial Firms for sympathetic consideration devoted to the employment of blind labour.
- The Publishers, Authors and Owners of Copyright who have granted permission to print and publish Braille and Moon editions and manuscript copies of books, etc., without fee.
- The Steamship Companies who have conveyed books and apparatus to all parts of the world free of charge or at greatly reduced rates.
- The Voluntary Braille Writers, Readers, Correctors and Teachers in the Manuscript Departments.
- The Publishers, Composers and Owners of Copyright who have granted permission to print and publish Braille editions of music, etc., without fee.
- Clergy, Organists and Members of the National Union of Organists' Associations for organising or permitting recitals and carol services in aid of the Institute's work.
- The eminent Musicians and Academic Bodies who have assisted the Music Department in very many ways.
- The Honorary Officials and Members of the Theatrical and Ladies' Committees and of the Printing and Kindred Trades Blind Aid Committee for their work in aid of the Greater London Fund for the Blind, and, in the case of the latter, for generous assistance to the Institute's After-Care work.
- The Honorary Officials and Members of the Helpers of the Blind Circles for their work in connection with Geranium Day and the Greater London Fund for the Blind.
- The thousands of Voluntary Sellers and Organisers of Depots for their services on Geranium Day.
- The Honorary Officials and Members of the Sunshine Homes Local Committees.
- The Honorary Medical Staff at the Sunshine Homes.
- The Firms and Individuals who have made generous gifts in kind to assist the Sunshine Homes.
- The Committee of the All-England Solo Dancing Competition, and the Dancing Teachers and their Pupils who have supported the competition and organised displays in aid of the Sunshine Homes.
- The Branches and Members of the Sunshine Society.
- The Voluntary Sellers and Organizers of Depots for their service on the Blind Babies Flag Day.
- The Individuals and Scholastic Establishments who have supported Chorley Wood College.
- The Members of the Medical Profession and Hospital Authorities who have assisted the work of the Massage Department.
- The Margaret Morris School of Dancing for free dancing instruction to Students of the Massage School.
- The Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of His Majesty's Forces for generous financial assistance to the Blind Ex-Service Men's Fund.
- The Honorary Chaplains and Honorary Medical Staff at the Institute's Homes for Blind Women, etc.
- The Voluntary Readers, Organisers of concert parties and outings, Donors of tickets, etc., for providing amusement for the inmates of the Institute's Homes and the Institute's Blind Employees.
- The Voluntary Organisers of exhibitions and sales held in connection with the Home Industries Department.
- The Donors of wireless sets, headphones, special money gifts, etc., to the Wireless Equipment Department.
- The Members of the Institute's Headquarters and Provincial Staff whose unflinching loyalty and steadfast devotion to the cause of the blind are apparent on every page of this Report.

FORM OF BEQUEST

“I give to the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND,
of 224-8 GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1., the sum of

free of Duty, to be applied for the general purposes of the said
National Institute.”

IMPORTANT.—Property of all kinds, including Land of any tenure and
also including Money lent on Mortgage and the securities therefor, may
lawfully be given to Charitable Institutions by Will.

*The above printed form can be readily adapted to Gifts of Land by the
substitution of a description of the land in question for the words “the sum of.”*

**When a Will has been already made, and it is afterwards desired
to benefit the National Institute, it will be sufficient if the form on the
back is filled up, detached, duly signed and witnessed in like manner
as the Will itself, and carefully attached to the existing Will.**

This is a Codicil to the last Will of me

dated

I give to the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND,
OF 224-8 GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1., the sum of

free of Duty, to be applied for the general purposes of the said National Institute.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of

19

Signed by the Testat _____ as and
for a Codicil to h_____ last Will
dated _____
in the presence of us, both present at the
same time, who at h_____ request, and in
h_____ presence, and in the presence of
each other, have hereunto set our names as
witnesses.

Signature of Testator or Testatrix.

(1)

of

(Profession)

(2)

of

(Profession).

WITNESSES SHOULD
SIGN HERE

Subscribers are invited to sign, detach, and return to the NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND, 224-6-8 Great Portland Street, W.1, the annexed Bankers' Order for the payment of their Annual Subscription. In this way all future trouble in renewing the payment is avoided, and the Bankers will pay the amount direct, without further order.

This Order can be withdrawn at any time.

BANKERS' ORDER

Name of Bankers.....

Date 19

Branch

Pay to the Account of the National Institute for the Blind at THE WESTMINSTER BANK, Ltd. (Harley Street Branch, 154 Harley Street, W.1), my Subscription of..... now, and continue to pay the amount yearly on the 1st of in each year until further notice, without application.

Signature

Address

Place

for

Stamp.

L

National Institute for the Blind

1927

To the Hon. Treasurers of the

.....19.....

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND

(Registered under the Blind Persons Act, 1920)

224, 226 & 228, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.1

I have pleasure in assisting the above Institute in the following manner:—

Annual Subscription	...	...	:	:
Annual Subscription increased by			:	:
Donation	...	...	:	:
			£	:

Enclosed, please find.....value.....

(Name).....

Please state whether Mr., Mrs., Miss, etc.)

(Address).....

Cheques should be made payable to the "National Institute for the Blind," and crossed "Westminster Bank, Ltd."

